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metroSCIENCE

FORT MCMURRAY: ONE YEAR LATER

Charity Wiley, public-relations director of Clearwater Horse Club, stands with her neighbour's horse, Sonny.

JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

BACK IN THE SADDLE

Evacuees readjust to returning home — and not just the human ones

plus

- Daughter's birth helps mother through dark time
- Back to boomtown? Fort Mac's future in the air

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Conservationists hope statistics will help develop strategies for safe movement of animals. iStock

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Mining data in death

Roadkill has proven a useful tool for the city. The harsh statistics reveal where animals travel in Calgary, and point to ways to prevent more deaths in the future.

HELEN PIKE METRO

The roadkill in Calgary speaks volumes.

The city's parks department started collecting data on roadkill in 2005; not out of some gruesome fascination, but because it actually can help the city tell where different animals are travelling.

"Verifying roadkill, as I'm finding out, is a very tricky thing to do," said City of Calgary urban conservation lead Chris Manderson.

"It's kind of gory, but it's certainly informative."

Manderson explained that they've done some work on wildlife corridors. Not the Banff style tunnels, but simply looking at where animals travel in Calgary — and roadkill sightings have been acting as a confirmation of that work.

"A big part of that was measuring what we call connectivity," Manderson said. "The premise there is if you think about green spaces as infrastructure, they work better if they're connected

"It's kind of gory, but it's certainly informative."
Chris Manderson

and they're bigger."

He hopes the city can use this kind of data to inform future decisions. An example could be how to connect green spaces in a new community, or where a fence might need to go to keep wildlife and the community safe.

"What we want to do is understand how these systems change over time, and are there things we can do to manage for that," Manderson said.

"We don't necessarily want to encourage large mammals to move into downtown Calgary...but there may be options or opportunities to provide better connections for smaller birds, insects, things like that."

Tracy Lee, a senior project

manager with the Miistakis Institute said Calgarians need to start having conversations about the level of cohabitation citizens want.

"People are starting to understand the importance of biodiversity," Lee said. "We need to be helping to facilitate movement outside of our national parks as well, even in the urban environment."

The keen eye Calgary has peeled for animal activity is encouraging to the Miistakis Institute, because they believe once complete it can help the city mitigate a societal cost that can really add up.

For deer, Lee said the societal cost is about \$6,617 per animal, which includes property damage, injuries and lost hunting profits.

"When you start to do the numbers, it can get big fast," said Manderson.

When those numbers are crunched, it makes sense to build mitigation and get animals off the road, Lee said.



+ HOW THEY COME

• **White-tailed deer** come from Paskapoo Slopes through the Weaslehead into the city. That's where the city sees the highest density of deer strikes

• **Moose** come into Calgary through the NW in Edgemont, Evanston and Tuscany.

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Window washer's passing becomes gift of life for others

ACCIDENT

Broden Cheyne's organs helped 10 people across Canada



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

Broden Cheyne's family is still reeling from his sudden death, but they're finding some comfort in the lives he may have helped as an organ donor.

Cheyne, a 30-year-old husband and soon-to-be father, was at his job washing windows when he fell from a ladder on April 19.

His mother, Jackie Patey, said her son died in hospital on April 21. Doctors were able to provide many of his organs to people waiting for transplants.

"They flew a thoracic team in — I don't know where from — to do the major part of the surgery, and then they flew the organs were they needed to go," she said. His kidneys, heart, lungs and corneas were all able to go to people on transplant wait lists. Some of his skin also went to burn victims. She was told he might be helping as many as 10 people.

"We donated anything and everything they possibly wanted," she said. "They said some of his organs were going east —

+ DONATIONS

Broden's co-workers started a GoFundMe in hopes of supporting his wife and unborn son. It can be found at gofundme.com/brodens-dear-lindsay-baby

some were going west."

His mom said he was excited for the arrival of his first son, who is due at the end of May. He was also set to celebrate his fifth wedding anniversary that month.

"His wife was saying they had so much fun putting that crib together," she said.

Patey said her son was genuine, kind and caring — and she's been hearing that from all the people he crossed paths with over the years.

"His goal was to become a police officer," said Patey. "His grandfather was a police officer. His cousin is on the police force and his other cousin is applying."

She said Cheyne had passed his physical and wrote the test, although he didn't get called back this year.

He was washing windows with his best friend Greg Cox to make ends meet until he could take the CPS test again.

"Lately it was a big goal of his," said Cox. "He was getting into really good shape. I think he lost 40 pounds in the last



Broden Cheyne died days after a workplace accident earlier this month. He was working as a window washer but had the goal of joining the Calgary Police Service. CONTRIBUTED

year or so, just to get ready for it."

Cox said he and Cheyne had met when they were both teenagers working at the same mov-

ie theatre. He invited his friend to wash windows with him, and they had been working together for a couple years.

He knows that Cheyne

would've wanted his organs donated. "As weird as it sounds we got into a lot of deep conversations at work, and that was one of them," he said.

AGRICULTURE

Farm-aid agency has new board

Alberta has new leaders and oversight rules in place at a Crown agency tasked with helping farmers with loans, crop insurance, and disaster aid.

Agriculture Minister Oneil Carlier says the new board of the Agriculture Financial Services Corp. will have eight members chaired by Jennifer Wood, a professional agrologist and agribusiness executive.

Carlier sacked the old six-member board about a year ago and suspended three top executives. "I lost confidence in the last board after an investigation of staff expenses left me seriously concerned that there was a culture of entitlement at AFSC," Carlier said Thursday.

An audit found the executives engaged in questionable purchasing practices and racked up lavish expenses for trips, dinners and limousine rides. The executives were suspended with pay.

I lost confidence in the last board after an investigation of staff expenses.

Oneil Carlier

Carlier said two of the executives have retired while the former president, Brad Klak, did not have his contract renewed.

Many irregularities were done with one unnamed client company, but the corporation says it no longer does business with that group. Carlier says a police investigation continues, and says the new board will now hire a permanent CEO. "As we move ahead I have every confidence that AFSC will continue to be an important partner to Alberta's agricultural sector," said Carlier. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Confluence comes home

ECOLOGY

Goat, named for birthplace in Calgary park, is back for more



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Confluence the goat is coming home to his birthplace.

Last year, the city had an inaugural grazing pilot. In June, a herd of more than 100 goats took to Confluence Park to deal with the city's invasive and prickly Canadian Thistle.

On the first day of the pilot, Penny the goat unexpectedly went into labour and gave birth to Confluence.

"It just seemed so fitting, he was born in the park," said Jeannette Hall, owner of BAAH'D Plant Management & Recreation.

And so, fittingly, he was named for the park. During the two-week stint at the park, two more goats were born and the trio became fast



Fact: Confluence the goat is adorable. COURTESY BAAH'D PLANT MANAGEMENT

friends who immediately took to feasting on weeds.

"From the day that they're born they start to mouth feed and learn from their parents," Hall said. "He was definitely eating weeds within a couple of weeks of being born — and he still does."

The little goat was a hit with the public: Confluence was nominated, and won, a photo contest to be included in the Commemorative 50th anniversary Canadian Humane Society Calendar. The goat with donkey-like fur came in first place.

Confluence was born premature, so although he's grown up since last year's pilot, when he comes back to the city park to munch on perennial pests, Hall said you'll notice he's still quite a bit smaller than his friends. City of Calgary urban con-

servation lead Chris Manderson said Confluence Park was chosen because that's the only urban spot that fit with current bylaws allowing livestock to graze because it was never redesignated as a park.

He hopes to present council with options early this summer on how land use could change to allow inner-city grazing.

"We've had a number of requests for people that would love to have some goats," Manderson said. "There seems to be a lot of interest in it."

He said they're looking for council direction first, so they haven't sat down to make a plan for where goats could be a useful weeding tool.

"We're going to look at some more trials and make sure we can actually evaluate just how effective they are," Manderson said.

"We'll look at monitoring plots, looking at areas that have a weed population, and we'll be spending a lot more time assessing what was there beforehand and what the impact of grazing is versus other means of controlling weeds."

INFRASTRUCTURE

Mount Royal gets green reno



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Mount Royal University is innovating on their green technologies.

The provincial and federal government are granting MRU \$5.5 million to modernize school mechanical systems and develop a social innovation hub.

The funds will improve lighting and air systems, allowing for individual room control, answer operating costs and increase energy efficiency.

The social innovation hub will provide the university community with a dedicated space to share ideas and address social and environmental challenges.

"These significant investments help Alberta students put their best foot forward by maximizing the number of new, modernized learning spaces," said Marlin Schmidt, Minister of Advanced Education.

The province has committed \$734 million towards new post-secondary infrastructure projects by 2020-21, plus \$676 million for maintenance and renewal.

"It just seemed so fitting, he was born in the park."
Jeannette Hall

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Lisa Mitchell's body was discovered by police two years after she went missing, entombed in this plastic container covered in cement in Allan Shyback's home where he lived with the couple's two small children. CROWN

Defence calls for acquittal of client

COURT

Lawyer: Victim was killed in self defence, lesser charges sought



**Lucie
Edwardson**
Metro | Calgary

A Calgary man, accused of strangling his common-law wife and entombing her body in a plastic container in cement in their basement, should be acquitted or at least found guilty of a lesser charge, argued his defence lawyer Thursday morning.

Allan Shyback, 40, is charged with second-degree murder and improperly interfering with human remains in the 2012 death of his common-law partner and mother of two, Lisa Mitchell.

A "Mr. Big" sting operation was launched in 2013, in which Shyback was befriended by a number of undercover police officers, and ultimately resulted in his 2014 confession and arrest.

Earlier this week, Shyback took the stand and testified that he'd been a victim of domestic abuse at the hands of Mitchell for their nearly 10-year relationship. He said the day he killed Mitchell he was protecting himself when she threatened to stab him.

On Thursday morning Shyback's defence lawyer, Balfour Der, presented his closing arguments, after nearly two weeks of evidence and said his client should be acquitted, or at the very least, convicted of manslaughter instead of murder.

Der said that previous court decisions uphold the idea that the accused gets the benefit of reasonable doubt that the most favourable version of events goes to the benefit of the accused as the onus of proof is on the Crown to prove their case beyond reasonable doubt.

'It doesn't make me a murderer': Accused killer says of wife's strangulation death

"Hearken back to that quotation from an old English case about '1,000 suspicious circumstances does not equal proof,'" said Der.

"There has to be a solid anchorage for which this guilt to be found."

Der said he agrees that Shyback's post-offence conduct was suspicious.

"It's gruesome, it's a terrible thing to have done," he said. "To have taken this woman and folded her into a tub and cemented



Lisa Mitchell COURTESY CALGARY POLICE SERVICE

should resonate with her.

"At the very least (the evidence should) create reasonable doubt here — if not a finding that it's positively established that there was self-defense," he said.

Crown prosecutor Jayme Williams said Shyback's evidence was inconsistent, not credible and tailored to best suit the version of events he'd given to the undercover officers but made him look as good as possible.



Only two people were in the house that day and one of them ended up in a tub in the basement. Jayme Williams

her into the basement — the man knows that."

Der said when his client took the stand — and throughout his conversations with undercover officers — he said that he didn't try to kill Mitchell, didn't want to harm her and was simply defending himself.

"He said that he loved this woman and wanted there to be a family," he said.

Der told Justice Rosemary Naton that this type of evidence

Williams said Shyback played up that he was an abused spouse instead of in "an aggressive, hostile relationship."

She pointed out that during the "Mr. Big" sting, Shyback had told one of the undercover officers that he'd need to put a "good spin" on the incident.

"This is his spin," she said. "Only two people were in the house that day and one of them ended up in a tub in the basement."

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Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

You've been sorting your waste in your kitchen. Now a new pilot program in Calgary is taking it to the streets.

Garbage cans in the community of Kensington now have a metal ring on the outside, where people can place recyclable bottles and cans, rather than throwing them in the trash.

Bottle pickers are free to take what's there according to Ellen Parker, director of communications for the Kensington BRZ.



Feeling bad about putting that recyclable bottle in with the regular garbage? These garbage cans in Kensington have got your back. BRODIE THOMAS/METRO

She said the city of Calgary approached BRZs about trying the new can designs as a pilot project, and they were happy to give it a try.

"It's really cool," said Parker.

"The great thing about it is that it provides that visual awareness of the waste we're producing."

The metal rings were added to the outside of existing garbage cans last summer, according to a city spokesman.

The work was done as part of a streetscape redesign. However, the city was concerned the rings weren't being used.

This month, they added small banners to let people know how to use the rings.

Parker said several business owners told her they are pleased with the design.

Metro spoke to some bottle pickers out side the Uptown Bottle Depo who like the idea, too.

Tony said having the bottles out and separate from the trash could cut down on potential messes.

"Some guys, they're pretty disrespectful and they make a mess and leave," he said. "By the time we get there, people are complaining to us. And it's like, 'we didn't do it.'"

A City of Calgary spokesman said they're looking at expanding the program to other public spaces in the future.

COURT

Uber drivers plead guilty, pay fines



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

The city is Uber satisfied after drivers pleaded guilty to two-year-old charges for breaking Calgary's bylaws.

On Thursday, the City of Calgary and more than 30 Uber drivers finally had their day in court, wrapping up the lengthy legal process to uphold a bylaw that's now obsolete.

In the end, Marc Halat, the city's chief compliance officer, said the city saw a "successful outcome" after 34 drivers pleaded guilty and ponyed up \$1,500 a piece for participating in Uber's launch back in 2015.

At the time, driving for Uber was illegal and enforcement officers set out to ticket operators while the city sought an injunction to stop the rideshare company's operation until bylaws could be tweaked.

"At the time we made it very clear, we tried to avoid this from happening all together," Halat said. "We never let our guard down, it was all about public safety...a choice was



It's about upholding what you stand for.

Mark Halat

made to launch in an unlawful capacity which put us in an enforcement role."

The city issued more 103 tickets through both the bylaw and the Traffic Safety Act, but in the end the city dropped the TSA infractions.

"We're satisfied with the guilty plea on the bylaw violations," Halat said. "It's not about getting as much as you can, it's about upholding what you stand for."

Halat said this court case hasn't changed the city's working relationship with Uber.

"We are aware that some partners have chosen to reach a resolution with the city," said Uber spokesman Jean-Christophe de Le Rue. "Since our relaunch in Calgary following the new regulations, our teams are focused on compliance and in serving Calgarians."

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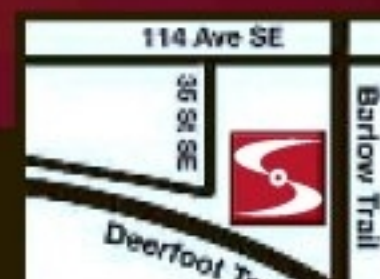


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Charity Wiley visits Sonny the horse, in front of her stable, which was unscathed. Her neighbours' structure had to be rebuilt. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

BY THE NUMBERS

1,595

Number of buildings and structures destroyed in the fire, this includes 2,579 dwelling units

\$189M

Total amount of money donated to the Red Cross

37K

The number of cleanup kits handed out to returning evacuees

\$134M

Total value of donations that were matched by the federal and provincial governments

10,900

The number of plane and bus tickets the Red Cross booked to help people return home

\$3.8B

Estimated total payout in insurance claims

Equine evacuees coping well

ANIMAL WELFARE

People banded together to get horses away from fire



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

As soon as Charity Wiley leans on the fence of the paddock, her neighbour's horse, Sonny, hustles over to check her pockets for treats.

"He's a ham," she says, giving the wide white blaze on

his nose a scratch.

Fort McMurray is an unabashedly animal-loving community. From the pets stowed away on evacuation planes, to the fish carried out in water bottles, to the dozen or so horses set free in desperation, animals featured prominently in the evacuation.

The town's residents have spent the last year readjusting to being home — and not just the human ones.

But Wiley says most of the equine evacuees are coping just fine.

"Some of them are a bit funny going on the trailer, but you can't really blame them,

the last time they were on the trailer it was all panicky," she said, referring to the panicked flight from Clearwater Horse Club a year ago.

"They have every single reason to be reclusive and untrusting and set back from where they were in the fire, but they're not," she said, Sonny now resting his head on her shoulder.

"They don't have to be the horse they were when they left but they are. And I think that's the best part of it."

Here at Clearwater, a Fort McMurray institution for almost 50 years, people banded together to hurry horses onto

trailers and down the highway as fast as possible. But with flames bearing down, the last dozen or so had to just be set loose.

"They migrated down the highway and into a camp," Wiley said, a distance of about 20 kilometres.

"They have amazing senses to gather as a herd and make their way to safety. They're very smart."

In many ways, the animal rebuild echoes the human one: the fire damage seems randomly distributed, and only some of the buildings have been rebuilt.

Only about half of the club's

120 or so horses are back so far. All but a few will return, but either their stables haven't been rebuilt or their human's homes haven't.

But the way people have rebuilt to get the animals back reflects the values of the human community, Wiley said.

"People go to any length for their animals. I know that there were quite a few lost in the harder hit areas, but to think of how many were rescued, it's hopeful," she said.

"It just goes to show that life is valued here and it's not just a working town, it's a caring community. People have each others' backs."

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New mom details bittersweet return

SURVIVOR

Baby brought family strength in dark time



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

It was the best and worst year of her life.

Last year, in their Abasand home, Kyle McLaren, who was 40 weeks pregnant, barely had time to scoop up her shoes before running out the door in the last minutes to evacuate from the Fort McMurray fire.

A year later, McLaren said she still dreams of what she could have taken with her — a photo album, an accordion file folder, her baby's blanket.

Her daughter, Dawson, who was born safely in Calgary on May 13 in Room 13 at 10:13 a.m., is walking now. McLaren says without her, she's not sure she would have made it through the fire.

"At first, none of it kicked in,

we were just there," McLaren said.

Instead of bringing her baby home to her own house, with the things she'd gathered for their newborn daughter, she was in a cramped room in her Calgary relatives' home.

"They let me just take a baby home from a hospital," McLaren said. "I still have postpartum, and I think it's worse because of what happened."

She said that when her mind lingers to having her next baby she immediately thinks: "What if the house burns down again?"

"Last year was the worst year of my life, but it was also the best, because she was born," McLaren said. "It was an exciting time and experience, but it was really crappy.... If I didn't have her, there was no way I would have made it through this.... She was a happy distraction."

Over the phone from Fort Mac, you can hear McLaren's teething tot gurgling in the background, fussing, laughing. Her home burnt down so she's living in a downtown condo. It took her eight months before she and

her family felt ready to return.

"We were really excited to come up here, but it was scary," McLaren said.

When Dawson was six months old they came up to Fort Mac for a visit, snuck into their old neighbourhood and couldn't discern which of the rubble-ridden lots used to be theirs. That was hard, and she hasn't been able to go back since, but coming back for keeps was another matter.

"I was excited to be on our own again, be a family, but I was also terrified," McLaren said. "We drove up in separate cars, I wanted to pull over so many times and say, 'I can't do this, I'm going back.'"

She's still isn't sure how her daughter's birth story will form. Dawson is too young right now to realize the great escape her parents made to deliver her safely in Calgary.

"It's a life-changing thing," McLaren said. "I think it might be one of those things you tell at her wedding day."

Hearing about the fire now still upsets her. "Eventually, it won't be so hard to talk about."



After losing her Fort McMurray home at 40 weeks pregnant, Kyle McLaren and her fiancé are renting a home with their daughter Dawson, now almost one year old. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO



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Uncertain journey back to boomtown

RECOVERY

One year later, some wonder if 'the hustle' will ever be the same



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Like thousands of her neighbours, Izdihar Salloum got out of Fort McMurray with nothing, minutes ahead of an out-of-control wildfire.

She'd grown to love the tight-knit community she'd called home for almost a decade, and wouldn't have chosen to leave, she says.

But then pieces started to fall into place in Edmonton: Her two oldest went back to universities in the city, Wal-Mart transferred her job to a local store, she found a new home where she could walk to work.

Now her husband, Shaouki Bazzi, goes north to work every few weeks — then gets in his car and drives back to Edmonton.

"I have very, very good memories there," she said. "But I don't want to go back... It's too hard."

She's not alone — the city cur-



Rachel Ondang lived in Fort McMurray for a decade, but then had to leave after work dried up post-fire. JEREMY SIMES/METRO

rently estimates the population to be about 73,500, but between the economic downturn and the fire fallout residents say the city doesn't have the same hustle it did pre-fire.

It has some wondering: Will Fort McMurray will ever be the same?

"The work just isn't there. You can't stay in Fort McMurray and just hang out for fun. It's a city where you have to have a lot of

money just to be able to live," said Rachel Ondang.

It's a concept she knows something about. Until recently she was employed handling donations for evacuees. First the donations dried up, then her contract ended, and two weeks ago she moved back in with her parents in B.C.

As Ondang sees it, the fire marked a fundamental shift for the former boomtown.

"We all woke up on May 3 and faced reality. We were living in a fantasy world and reality is here — and it's not going away."

Like most cities, Fort McMurray residents have long navigated their town by neighbourhood. But now some of those borders have become divisions between the haves and have-nots.

"The people who are living in houses that weren't damaged have no clue about those strug-

gling to keep their heads above water," Ondang said. "I think that divide was always there, but the fire has just really magnified it."

"I know a lot of people who wrapped socks and underwear for their kids for Christmas year," Ondang said.

Fort McMurray city councillor Sheldon Germain, who is also a member of the Wood Buffalo recovery committee, admits that for some people it might make

financial sense to relocate, but he believes in the community's ability to rebound. "From Day 1, people used the term 'new normal,' and I don't know if I'd say that, but it was a transformational event, it's become part of the fabric of who we are."

He said the city kicked into high gear over the last year, tackling restricted areas and temporarily getting rid of things like tipping fees at the dump and the noise bylaw to get construction moving. According to Germain the city has already issued over 400 building permits for this year, and he hopes this building season will see ground broken on about half of the 2,000 buildings that burned.

Still, city officials have weathered not only criticism on some policy decisions, but economic hardship themselves. The municipality cut 168 positions in January, a decision Germain calls "unpopular, but prudent."

But as a resident who weathered the downturn in the 1980s he argues the core of the city — "people in Fort McMurray are go-getters," he says — won't change.

"I would say I believe in the community, I believe in our partners in industry," he said. "But it's not just a rebuild. It's a recovery."



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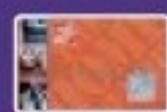
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Roberta Segar



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These lumps and bumps can be frustrating at any time of year but especially so during the summer months. Summer is the season of weddings, vacations and reunions, special gatherings where we want to look our best. We want to be able to wear light, tight or little attire but a bulge in the wrong place often dictates our wardrobe choices.

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Bob Patrick, Horizon Housing resident, and Kim O'Brien, CEO of Horizon Housing, celebrated the start of construction for the affordable housing project by ceremoniously shovelling the dirt. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

'This has been a very long time coming'

DEVELOPMENT

Affordable housing project gets underway



Jennifer Friesen
For Metro | Calgary

Everything unravelled for Bob Patrick in 2002.

He was a successful business man with a family and a home, but after suffering from a mental breakdown that year, he said he "finally blew out a valve."

In the following years he lost it all. He was suicidal, depressed and paying too much for too small an apartment. But that all changed when he was placed in affordable housing through Horizon Housing Society in 2010.

"It's given me a chance to heal

and get my life back on track," he said on Thursday morning, when he joined Horizon Housing Society and the Resolve Campaign in the official ground breaking of a new affordable housing community in Glamorgan.

The new Elbow Valley Lands development at 5025 45 St. S.W. will soon become home to more than 200 Calgarians experiencing mental health challenges, limited mobility and those living below the poverty line.

As Kim O'Brien, CEO of Horizon Housing Society, spoke to the crowd, she said she couldn't help but overhear her staff members saying, "This has been a very long time coming."

"We've been working on this for quite a few years, so it's very surreal for us to stand here today," she continued.

With funding from the City of Calgary, community members, donations and a \$17.9-million



It's given me a chance to heal and get my life on track.

Bob Patrick

grant from the Alberta Government, the 161-unit project is expected to be completed by the autumn of 2018.

However, with approximately 3,200 Calgarians experiencing homelessness and more than 14,000 households "who are a paycheck away from homelessness," Mayor Naheed Nenshi said there's still "a lot of work to do."

"In the end, the city only works if it works for everyone," said Nenshi. "Our poverty reduction strategy and our 10-year strategy to end homelessness only work when people have safe, stable, dignified places to live."

HEALTH CARE

Nurse council will see many new faces this year



Elizabeth Cameron
For Metro | Calgary

The last year was one of growth for the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA), but perhaps the biggest changes are yet to come.

Speaking at the CLPNA's annual conference, CEO Linda Stanger said the next year could see as much as a 70 per cent turnover on the college's council.

"We've had three new public

members appointed, and we have the potential to have up to four new LPN's to be elected," she said.

"So there will be a serious focus on building that team and ensuring everyone's up to speed."

Going forward, the college is also going to try and resolve all complaints within 12 months, although Stanger admits much of the process is out of their control — for example, the CLPNA must wait for criminal investigations to wrap up before starting their own.

"It is an ambitious goal, but we think it might be achievable," Stanger said.

The average time for resolution of a complaint right now is 47 weeks, but she pointed out many complaints take more than two years to resolve.

"We are within (12 months) on average already, but we have some that are outstanding from 2015 — two years old — and that seems, in our opinion, a long time for LPN's and complainants to wait for outcomes," Stanger said.

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WEEKEND EVENTS

Rock out, dress up and enjoy vegan goodies

Friday - Brit Rock Film Tour

This might not be the kind of British rock you were expecting — the film tour includes three films about rock and boulder climbing.

There's The Quarryman, Shauna Coxsey Goes Crack Climbing and Bloheads, a film all about bouldering. All the films are from 2016.

For more information, visit snifevents.com

Saturday - Roughnecks Superhero Game

Just a stone's throw from the Calgary Expo, the Calgary Roughnecks will take on the Saskatchewan Rush in a special, superhero-themed game. Cosplayers are invited to come in costume, enjoy the game, and the party-like atmosphere.

For more information, visit calgaryroughnecks.com.

Saturday - Vegan Bake Sale

The vegan life is not an easy life, but this bake sale might help. Treats on sale will include cookies, brownies, cupcakes, pizza buns, dessert bars, sausage rolls and more — all vegan, and some gluten-free. All the proceeds will support non-profits The Alice Sanctuary and the Free Spirit Sanctuary.

The bake sale starts at 11 a.m. at Community Natural Foods near Chinook Station.

Sunday - Commonwealth Collectors

The Commonwealth Collectors club is back, with vintage clothing, local art, handmade jewelry, records and a bunch of other interesting knick-knacks. If you missed out before, many original vendors are back, as well as some new ones. There will be DJs and the bar will serve up mimosas.

For more information, search Commonwealth Collectors Club on Facebook.

AARON CHATHA/METRO



Jason Mewes is a mainstay of longtime friend Kevin Smith's View Askew movie universe that includes Clerks, Chasing Amy, Mallrats and Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back. Mewes will be appearing at the Calgary Expo. CONTRIBUTED

Dabbling in a new direction

FILM

Clerks star makes debut as filmmaker in new movie



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Jason Mewes is busy. The louder half of the Jay and Silent Bob duo just wrapped up directing his first movie, and now he's flying to the Calgary Comic Expo this weekend to sign autographs, take photos and do a live recording of their podcast Jay and Silent Bob Get Old.

What can you tell me about your directorial debut, Madness in the Method?

It's cool. It's something that, not only did I get to direct, but I'm not directing someone else's movie. I get to make my directorial debut with a script I was part of, with the concept. We're pretty much done, the editor's at my house right now, actually.

We did eight days in LA and then three weeks in London. So far it looks good.

I didn't expect — because we don't have a whole lot of money — I didn't expect some of the people we reached out to.

For example, Teri Hatcher, with her being Teri Hatcher, I assumed she'd be a fortune.

But it was really cool, because a lot of people were 'oh, Jay Mewes is directing his first movie,' so they jumped on board. Stan Lee does a cameo, Kevin does a cameo, Danny Trejo, Teri Hatcher, Dean Cain. We got Vinnie Jones. We got some really cool people, man.

What was the directing experience itself like?

It was a little overwhelming, because, I also act in the movie. So, it was a little more challenging than I expected to focus on acting and directing. We'd set up a shot, then I'd have to run to wardrobe and makeup and run back to do blocking.

So I get why Kevin, starting in Clerks, his whole plan was to be Silent Bob, because he didn't want to do both.

I definitely dug it, but next time, I wouldn't put myself in as the main character.

Looking back at the original Clerks, what do you think made Jay such a breakout character?

What I got from it — a lot of people say they can relate with the character. Either their cousin is like that, or their best friend — or even if they don't know anyone like that, they wish they were like that. Jay speaks his mind and just does whatever he's thinking. He's obnoxious and all that.

And there's a good handful of people that like smokin' the weed, so I think they liked that Jay smokes.

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Load up your railguns...if you're game for a challenge

INDIE GAME BASH

Annual video game party highlights local talent



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Get your blips, boops and bops in order — the Indie Game Bash is back, showing off more locally made, independent games.

The annual bash is thrown by the Calgary Game Developers to celebrate smaller-scale games, usually made by teams of only a few people (or sometimes, just the one developer!).

"There's a lot of energy around independent games and seeing mechanics that you don't necessarily see in more commercial games," said organizer Justin Luk. "You're exposed to new ideas or new ways of looking at games."

For example, one of the games featured this year is Railgun Golf. It's like regular golf, where you're trying to get the ball into the hole, except instead of a putter, you have a railgun. This is the first time Railgun Golf is being shown off at a Calgary Game Developers event.

There are about seven local games being shown off, which cover niche genres from boat



Like last year's Indie Game Bash, the annual event lets Calgary game developers like Justin Luk show off their projects.

AARON CHATHA / METRO

rescue to grenade combat.

This year, the Indie Game Bash will be held at the Palimino, which is a very different venue from the community hall where they used to hold the event.

According to Luk, the atmosphere will be a lot more vibrant, with a dance floor and DJs, all surrounded by a bunch of really cool games.

In addition to the local developers, there will also be a

few higher profile indie games available for play, including Ultimate Chicken Horse (a tense, platformer starring farm animals) and party game Move or Die (which is made up of rules from every other party

game ever made — and the rules change every round).

The Indie Game Bash takes place on April 29 at 7 p.m.

For more information, check out www.indiegamebash.com.

EMPLOYMENT

Push for female scientists

The Alberta Government is investing in immigrant and indigenous women for careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

On Thursday, Status of Women Minister Stephanie McLean announced \$100,000 in funding for the Making Changes Association, specifically to help train women for higher-paying jobs in the networking sector. "This is a project that recognizes the unique barriers that immigrant and indigenous women face, particularly in the STEM sector," said McLean. "When women succeed, families and communities succeed."

The 24-week program will assist women in getting their Cisco Networking Certificate, which is in critical need by employers in the province, according to YYC Net Lab Mike Simoens, who is assisting with the project.

Nearly 270 applied for the first round of this program. Only 15 will make it through this year.

The funding money will help the program get off the ground for the first year, although Cathy Coutts, executive director of Making Changes, admitted they will have to apply for more funding in the following years.

Coutts noted how many women come to Canada with bachelor's or even master's degrees, but still have trouble finding employment as their credentials are not recognized.

AARON CHATHA / METRO



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22

Canada **metro** NEWS



Artist Dolly Assinewe created these moccasin 'vamps' — the tops of the shoe are left unfinished to represent the lives of missing or murdered Indigenous women that were cut short. WALKING WITH OUR SISTERS NATIONAL COLLECTIVE

A path paved with tributes to the lost

WALKING WITH OUR SISTERS

Art installation honours missing and murdered women



Elizabeth Cameron
For Metro | Calgary

An expansive international art installation that visually quantifies the devastating number of missing and murdered Indigenous women in Canada is coming to Calgary next year, for the first and last time.

The exhibit, Walking With Our Sisters (WWOS), is a pathway of more than 1,700 pairs of moccasin 'vamps' — the top part of the shoe — intentionally left incomplete to represent the lives of missing or murdered Indigenous women that were cut short.

The exhibit has travelled across North America since 2014 — including stops in Red Deer and Edmonton — and is already booked well into 2019.

Calgarians are invited to the Calgary WWOS team's next community meeting, happening this Saturday at Mahmawi-Atoskiwin from noon to 3 p.m.

"This will be our first community conversation to let Calgary know we're bringing the exhibit here, this is how people can get involved and this is how they can help," said Stephanie Antone, a co-ordinator with the Calgary WWOS team.

The RCMP estimates more than 2,500 Indigenous women and girls have been reported missing or murdered in Canada in the past 30 years, although the actual number who have suffered similar traumas is thought to be much higher.

"By bringing it to Calgary, it will honour the local families

that are going through his personal struggle but as well bring awareness of the issue to the larger community of Calgary," said Autumn EagleSpeaker, co-lead of the Calgary WWOS team.

The expansive installation will be open to the public, but time will be set aside for affected families to view the exhibit in private.

"The people behind this have done everything to be mindful of those families and give them space to honour their loved ones in a private space that's supported by cultural practices of the land," Antone said.

Mount Royal University has donated the space to host the exhibit, which will run for 14 days in spring 2018.

EagleSpeaker said there is a lot of work to be done before then.

"We have a lot of fundraising to do, but we're just so excited it's going to happen," she said.

LABOUR

Tentative contract addresses key concerns, teachers say

The head of the Alberta Teachers' Association says a proposed contract devoid of pay increases addresses the main concerns of time and workload.

Mark Ramsankar says the deal puts a cap on the amount of time teachers can be assigned to non-classroom duties such as staff meetings, supervision and staff-development days.

"Time is the No. 1 priority and we heard that from teachers around the province going into this round (of bargaining),"

Ramsankar said Thursday.

"Now that we have this in our (tentative deal), we hope to continue to build on that."

The province and association announced Wednesday that they had reached a tentative two-year contract for 46,000 teachers spread over 61 jurisdictions in Alberta's public, Catholic and francophone schools.

The deal, which would be retroactive to Sept. 1, does not include any pay raises.

The preceding four-year deal had three years of frozen salaries followed by a two per cent raise in the last year and a one per cent lump-sum payout.

Ramsankar said the government was steadfast at the bargaining table on a salary freeze. He suggested teachers appreciate that low oil prices have put Alberta's finances deep into the red.

This year's budget deficit is forecast at \$10.3 billion.

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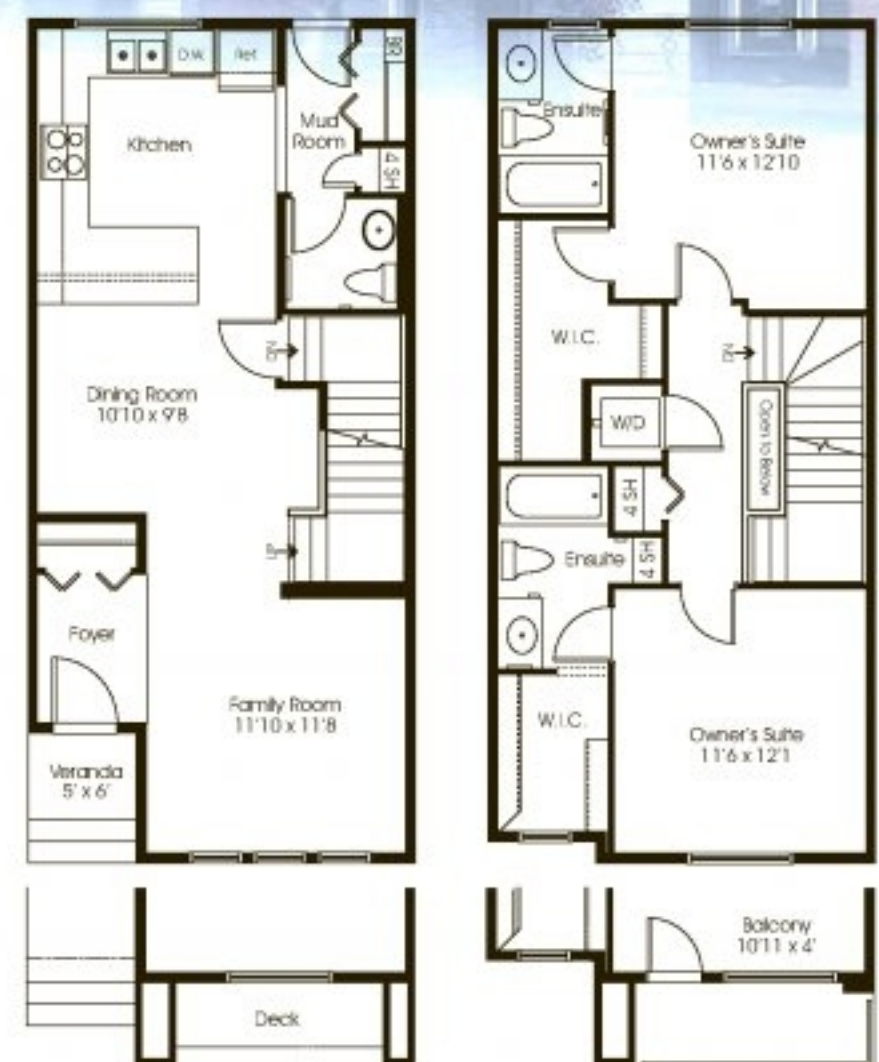
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Wanted: Female chairs

SCIENCE

Minister wants universities to appoint more women

The federal science minister says universities aren't doing the heavy lifting to appoint more female research chairs, so she wants to force their hands.

On her way to give a speech Wednesday to university presidents in Montreal, Kirsty Duncan was handed the latest statistics on the number of men and women among applicants for new Canada Research Chair positions.

"They're dismal," Duncan said in an interview. "There were two times more men nominated than women."

The Canada Research Chairs program was implemented 17 years ago to create 2,000 research positions at universities across the country to push for excellence in engineering, natural sciences, health sciences, humanities and social sciences. Canada spends \$265 million a year on the program.

"The bar isn't moving and that can't continue," Duncan said, noting that she even ad-libbed part of her speech because of it: "I let them know I was very disappointed with



Canada's science minister, Kirsty Duncan, says universities aren't doing the heavy lifting to appoint more female research chairs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

the results."

In 2006, the Canada Research Chairs Program settled a complaint with the Canada Human Rights Commission brought by eight women who complained about discrimination in the awarding of the positions.

In 2009, universities set targets to try and increase the number of research chairs who are women, visible minorities, Indigenous people and people

with disabilities. In 2012, universities had to start reporting their progress on these targets annually.

Duncan said if the voluntary program isn't working, she is open to forcing the issue — but would not say how that would work. Last fall she required new equity reporting and planning reports to be submitted with new applications for the Canada Excellence Research Chairs pro-

gram, after she discovered only one of the 28 chairs was female. That program focuses on science and technology research.

Duncan said Canada lags behind other nations when it comes to women in science; only 36 per cent of PhDs in science in Canada are earned by women, compared with 49 per cent in the U.K. and 46 per cent in the United States.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MANITOBA

Vigil mourns teen whose beating caught on tape

Hundreds of mourners gathered for a candlelit vigil in a Manitoba's Sagkeeng First Nation Thursday evening, days after the killing of a 19-year-old woman rocked the community.

Serena McKay's body was found Sunday night near a home on the Sagkeeng reserve, about 120 kilometres from Winnipeg.

Since then, a video linked to her death has circulated on social media, showing a young woman lying battered and barely conscious as she's repeatedly kicked and punched in the head. Claude Guimond, the principal of Sagkeeng Anicinabe High School, where McKay attended, has confirmed her identity in the video.

The video, which has since been removed from Facebook, appears to have been taken on a cellphone. Female and male voices can be heard.

"Tuesday we had a healing ceremony for our students and staff," Guimond said. "One of the recurring things that came out was how social media — Facebook, you know — made things even worse by people reposting the video."

RCMP are still investigating, but have arrested two girls, 16 and 17 years old, on charges of second-degree murder. Neither teen suspect can be named under the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

There will be another candlelit vigil for McKay in Winnipeg on Saturday night. The congregation will start at Thunderbird House at 6:30 p.m. and head to The Forks.

According to Facebook, a candlelit vigil in honour of McKay had also been planned in Montreal and Grand Rapids, Man. METRO WITH FILES FROM THE

CANADIAN PRESS



Serena McKay FACEBOOK

RELIGION

'Hand of generosity' to help build small town's first mosque



Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
Metro | Winnipeg

A Manitoba town in the Bible Belt has unanimously passed an application to house its first mosque.

Martin Harder, mayor of Winkler, Man. — which boasts

a population of about 12,600 — said the council chambers were packed with citizens Tuesday night.

Guests arrived from nearby towns like Carman, Morden, Altona and Winnipeg (which is approximately 1.5 hours away by car) to witness the meeting.

"We had a full house. We had lots of chatter on Facebook

both pro and con beforehand. But for city council to make the decision it was simply a matter of looking at the location," Harder said.

"Is it suitable for that type of a venue and gathering? We're not looking at the religious principles or religious organization."

In weeks prior, members of

the local Muslim community were already using the commercial space on Mountain Avenue for prayers before realizing they needed a rezoning permit.

Winkler city council heard delegates speak for and against the rezoning Tuesday and ultimately voted 7-0 in favour of the project.

"It's extending our hand of

generosity, which is what we're known for. We have an obligation to extend a hand of generosity to that community to ensure they can be comfortable," Harder said.

According to the mayor, the Muslim population is growing in the area, numbering between 135 to 150 people, including the arrival of five Syrian refugee

families sponsored by Winkler residents within the last year.

Harder said he was proud of the outcome of council deliberations.

"It's actually the first council meeting I've been at — and I've been mayor now almost 11 years — where I've had the group in council applauding the decision," he said.

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The White House says Donald Trump has told Prime Minister Justin Trudeau that the president has agreed not to terminate NAFTA at this time. THE CANADIAN P

Trump explains why he didn't kill NAFTA

TRADE

President says PM asked him not to and he 'likes' Trudeau

Donald Trump's administration had hinted Wednesday afternoon that he was about to sign an order that would begin the process of withdrawing the U.S. from the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Trump announced Wednesday night, though, that he would not be doing so.

What happened?

Trump offered a remarkable explanation on Thursday. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Mexican President Enrique

Pena Nieto called him, he said, and asked him not to proceed. And he likes them, he said, so he agreed.

"I was going to terminate NAFTA as of two or three days from now. The president of Mexico, who I have a very, very good relationship, called me. And also the prime minister of Canada, who I have a very good relationship, and I like both of these gentlemen very much, they called me," he said at the White House. "And they said, 'Rather than terminating NAFTA could you please negotiate.' I like them very much, I respect their countries very much, the relationship is very special. And I said I will hold on the termination, let's see if we can make it a fair deal."

The extraordinary story of-



We had a good conversation last night.

Justin Trudeau

fers a measure of vindication for Trudeau's studiously non-confrontational approach to Trump. It demonstrates, again, the primacy of personal relationships in the impulsive decision-making of a president who has little policy knowledge or fixed political principles.

"I really hope this is just spin," Scott Lincicome, a trade lawyer and Cato Institute adjunct scholar, wrote on Twitter.

It may be; it allows Trump to look magnanimous and in

control. But Trump has regularly changed his mind because someone explained something to him. After claiming for more than a year that China had the power to solve the conundrum of North Korea, he abandoned that view after Chinese President Xi Jinping spent "10 minutes" explaining the situation.

Trump's account was essentially confirmed by Trudeau.

"We had a good conversation last night. He expressed that, yes, he was very much thinking about cancelling. I highlighted quite frankly that whether or not there was a better deal to come, there was an awful lot of jobs, an awful lot of industries right now that have been developed under the NAFTA context," Trudeau said Thursday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

AIRLINES

United settles with Dao as it creates new policies

United Airlines moved to staunch criticism by reaching a settlement Thursday with a passenger dragged off one of its planes two weeks ago and issuing new policies designed to prevent similar customer-service failures.

On April 9, David Dao was forcibly removed from a flight after refusing to give up his seat to a crew member. United

and lawyers for Dao declined to disclose financial terms of the settlement. Earlier, United announced steps it would take to reduce overbooking of flights. Among other things, the airline said it will raise the limit on payments to customers who give up seats on oversold flights to \$10,000, and it will improve training of employees.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



GLOBAL DIGEST

Admiral says N. Korea crisis at worst point he's seen

The U.S. Navy officer overseeing military operations in the Pacific said Thursday the crisis with North Korea is at the worst point he's ever seen. Adm. Harry Harris Jr. told the Senate Armed Services Committee he has no doubt North Korean leader Kim Jong Un intends to fulfil his pursuit of a nuclear-tipped missile capable of striking the U.S.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

German soldier arrested on suspicion of planning attack

Police have arrested a German soldier who had posed as a Syrian refugee on suspicion he was planning an attack, apparently motivated by anti-foreigner sentiment. The 28-year-old lieutenant allegedly stashed a pistol in a bathroom at Vienna airport. Austrian authorities took him into custody when he went to retrieve it in February.

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Trump dismisses scorecard

100 days isn't enough time to 'make America great again,' despite campaign promise to voters, president says

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
From the U.S.



Sometimes, when it suits him, the president will say something true.

One-hundred days, President Donald Trump now says, isn't a whole heck of a lot of time to "make America great again."

He's right. (Take a minute, that's not a phrase that often appears in the context of Trump, the man who's elevated fact-checking to a full-time job.)

The arbitrary measure of a new U.S. president's early success — the 100-day mark — dates back to Franklin Delano Roosevelt and has often proved to have little to do with an administration's overall effectiveness.

Trump, though, back in the old days of October, campaigned on all the amazing things he'd do for his base in his first 100 days, even going so far as to sign a "contract" (the reality TV kind) with the



"American Voter" complete with his seismograph of a signature, and a fairly small photo, all things considered, of Trump with his hand over his heart. Meaning, it turns out, very little indeed.

The 100-day scorecard,

which he then promised with patriotic posture, Trump now considers "ridiculous." But this is America, and even while the pundits agree with its arbitrariness, everyone — the White House, the media, politicians, though probably not

your average "American Voter" — can't stop talking about Trump's fledgling legacy.

And it is worth looking at. As a study in political ineptitude, and policy disinterest. As a frenzy. As a warning.

We've learned that Trump

the president is very much Trump the campaigner: Keen to say whatever comes to mind, and reserve the right to reverse course anytime thereafter, such as threatening to shut down the government over funding for his Mexican border wall, and then not.

Capable of extreme policy swings after a single conversation with a world leader, as with China's currency policy. Swift to act in military matters, as in Syria (once again, regardless of any previous position), without feeling encumbered by the need for a greater strategy.

Ferociously critical of the media, whilst wooing it. Susceptible to conspiracy theories, such as Barack Obama wiretapping Trump Tower. Focused on "winning," but not on the how of actual policy, à la his failed health care bill. Dismissive of women, especially those with sexual harassment claims, with his support for Bill O'Reilly.

Ignorant of history, global politics, and government func-

tion and size, as with a speech that suggested Frederick Douglass was still alive, an interview in which he referred to the Korean leader Kim Jong Un as "the gentleman" and confused him for his father, and his admission this week to the Associated Press that he "never realized how big it was," meaning the federal government.

And indifferent, even hostile, to environmental protection and accepting climate change consensus, slashing the Environmental Protection Agency's budget and undoing Obama policies.

Not to mention the culture he's spawned, where swastikas and hate crimes are spreading like weeds.

Just like campaigning Trump would do, President Trump will mark his first 100 days with a rally in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Ever seeking the adoration of his base, while remaining, with a dismal 41 per cent approval rating, just as unpopular, and dangerous.

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DECODED by Genna Buck and Andrés Plana

INTRODUCING: STEVE

What is that brilliant line in the sky? Is it the trail of an airplane? A message from aliens? Part of the northern lights? Nah, it's just our buddy **Steve**. The heavenly phenomenon, given a cutesy name by the Alberta citizen scientists who helped discover him, is still rather mysterious. Our newest (upstairs) neighbour was apparently hiding in plain sight this whole time.

Here's what we know about him so far.

WHO IS STEVE?

Scientists aren't exactly sure yet what Steve is (a research paper is forthcoming), but he's not new, and appears closely related to the **aurora borealis**, or northern lights, which he often appears alongside.

The northern lights (and southern lights, **aurora australis**) are collisions between **charged particles from the sun** and **gas particles from the Earth's outer atmosphere**.

The colour depends on the gas (yellow-green from oxygen, purple, blue or red from nitrogen).

The high-energy reactions taking place on the surface of the sun throw off huge numbers of charged particles (protons and electrons).

These particles flow toward the Earth in the form of **solar wind**. Most are deflected by our planet's magnetic field. But around the poles, the magnetic field is weaker, allowing more particles in.

When a sun particle crashes into a gas atom high above the Earth, it causes the atom to release a **photon**, a particle of light. Hence the gorgeous display we see in the sky.

FAST FACTS

Thanks to **swarm**, a group of satellites run by the European Space Agency, we know a few things about Steve.

Steve is:

A band of electrically charged gas particles more than **300 kilometres** above the Earth's surface.

25 km wide and thousands of kilometres long.

Moving at about **6 kilometres per second** from east to west across Canada

Extremely hot: about **3,000 C** hotter than the surrounding air.

FINDINGS

Your week in science



STINKY STUDY

Mammals, regardless of species, all take about 12 seconds to poop, says new research in the journal *Soft Matter*. Large animals, despite having larger poops, don't take any longer to defecate, because they produce mucous that speeds the process. (There's surprisingly little data on human poop times, however). Last year, the same team decoded the universal mammal urination time: 21 seconds.

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I think this head of lettuce has been in the fridge since the **Glacial Epoch**.

PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan

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CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

What is E. coli doing in my cookie dough?

How did **E. coli** bacteria end up in flour? — Holly, Toronto

As a cookie dough aficionado, I share your extreme concern.

There are many subtypes of **E. coli** bacteria, most of which are perfectly friendly.

But not **E. coli** O121, the particularly gnarly type involved in the present recall of Robin Hood and Creative Baker flours and prepared tart shells from Harlan Bakeries. The bacteria makes a chemical called shigella toxin, which causes bloody diarrhea,

abdominal cramps and even kidney failure in some people.

The natural habitat of **E. coli** is the lower intestine of mammals. Yes, **E. coli** comes from poop. And somehow, it got into our flour. Not a nice thought. And how exactly this happened is still being investigated.

It's possible for nasty strains of **E. coli** to pass from person to person, especially if proper hand hygiene isn't followed. But the usual suspect in these types of situations is cow poop.

Past outbreaks have been

blamed on wheat irrigated with water contaminated with cow manure. Combine that with poor sanitation and cross-contamination at a processing facility, and you have a recipe for disaster.

And **E. coli** O121 has been known to grow in grain mills and processing equipment, especially if the environment is humid.

So what is a cookie dough lover to do?

First, check your cupboard. Quite a large number of products have been pulled from shelves (see the Canada Food Inspection

Agency website for the full list). If you have any at home, toss 'em.

But regardless of the brand, it's not considered safe to eat food containing uncooked flour. But don't go crying over your cookie dough just yet. If you heat the flour to at least 160 C, it's perfectly safe to eat. In fact, it's recommended that you let the youngest member of your kitchen team lick the beaters. It's practically a rule.

Science Question?

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MOVIES MUSIC TELEVISION DIGITAL

Emma Watson's got staying power



Watson next stars in *The Circle*, a thriller about America's most influential and possibly dangerous tech company. CONTRIBUTED

IN FOCUS

Takes more than Potter magic to soar to her heights

**Richard
Crouse**
For Metro Canada



One day someone may write about Emma Watson without mentioning the Harry Potter franchise, but today is not that day. Few child stars have faced the glare of the spotlight as acutely as the core Potter cast and the fame that came along with playing Harry, Ron and Hermione will likely follow them around for as long as Potterheads roam the earth.

It's not like they are crying over spilt potion, however. On

screen Daniel Radcliffe takes on demanding roles that give him the chance to distance himself from Harry and, apparently, show his bum at every opportunity. Rupert Grint has kept a lower profile, starring in a few independent films and playing an upper-crust criminal on the television adaptation of *Snatch*.

Of the three, Emma Watson has the highest professional profile — with gigs addressing the United Nations, starring opposite a heartbroken furry beast, and accepting British GQ's Woman of the Year Award.

This weekend she follows up her post-Potter star turn as Belle in *Beauty and the Beast* with the high-tech thriller *The Circle* — based on the 2013 novel by Dave Eggers. Appearing opposite Tom Hanks, she plays a young woman hired at *The Circle*, America's most influential and possibly dangerous tech company.

She says, "I pick movies, not roles," and has amassed a carefully curated IMDB page — including everything from *This is the End*'s axe-wielding version of herself to Noah's adopted daughter — designed to challenge an audience used to seeing her as Hermione and showcase strong and independent characters.

A year after *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows — Part 2*, she surprised fans by playing a wise-beyond-her-years free spirit in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*.

"If you had told me that the first movie I was going to do coming out of *Harry Potter* was an American high school movie," she told the *Hollywood Reporter*. "I would have laughed at you."

Based on a popular young adult novel, it uses one of the building blocks of teen drama — the friendless teen trying to navigate high school in his

freshman year — but layers in equal amounts of teen angst and exuberance before the final class bell rings. Watson is terrific, avoiding the square-peg-in-a-round-hole clichés that could have dogged her character.

Her next starring role silenced Hermione comparisons forever. The *Bling Ring* plays like a *Law & Order* episode of *The Hills*.

Based on actual events, it centres on a group of narcissistic Los Angeles teens who track the comings and goings of their favourite celebs on the Internet.

While one-named millennial stars like Paris and Lindsay are out on the town, the Ring "go shopping," breaking into their homes, helping themselves to jewels, designer clothes and loose cash.

Watson's performance nails the vapidity that made the robberies possible. Dead eyed, with a bored inflection on every word



she mispronounces, her take on Nicki shows there's more to her than being a wizard's sidekick.

"I am aware I have a long way to go," she told *Elle UK*. "I am not sure I deserve all the respect

I get yet, but I'm working on it."

The 27-year-old may have a long way to go, but one thing is for sure, if she continues to choose daring and exciting roles, she's staying in the spotlight.

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Spark: A Space Tail ★
Norman ★★★
An American Dream ★★★

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Kids flick has a Thelma & Louise ethos

INTERVIEW

Animated film sparks new role for Susan Sarandon

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



The new animated film *Spark: A Space Tail* boasts an a-list cast, actors who haven't done a lot of kids films. In an email conversation with Susan Sarandon, whose voice appears alongside Patrick Stewart, Jessica Biel and Hilary Swank, the *Dead Man Walking* star says she took the role because, "I've never played a robot before."

In the Canada-South Korea co-production she plays Bananny, the automaton nanny for the teen chimp Spark. He's an ape and her name is a play on the word banana, the preferred simian snack.

It's that kind of movie. Once the prince of a planet of the apes called Bana (banana without the "na," get it?), Spark lives



on a tiny slice of his former home, one of many planetary bits blown into space 13 years ago following a coup by the Napoleon-esque Zhong.

Sarandon, who recently won raves playing Bette Davis on the decidedly not-for-children hit television series *Feud*, says the best kids flicks are movies "both adults and kids can enjoy simultaneously and (ones that don't) patronize the children. Real emotion. When the kids save the day."

Without giving away too much, the new film stays close to the *Thelma and Louise* actress' ethos. The movie draws from *Star Wars*, *WALL-E* and just about every other adoles-



Ben Barnes, Miles Robbins with Susan Sarandon at the Gramercy Park Hotel in New York City. Sarandon lends her voice to the new animated film *Spark: A Space Tail*. GETTY IMAGES

cent-in-space movie where the young'uns are the unexpected heroes.

Spark lives with former royal guard members Vix and Chunk, warriors whose job is to protect,

train and prepare Spark for his destiny — the recapture of the kingdom. He's an underdog kids will identify with.

As a child, the Oscar-winning actress was drawn to movies

with strong central characters. Her favourites included *The Boy With the Green Hair*, an anti-bullying movie starring Dean Stockwell, and *Bambi*, the Disney classic about strength in

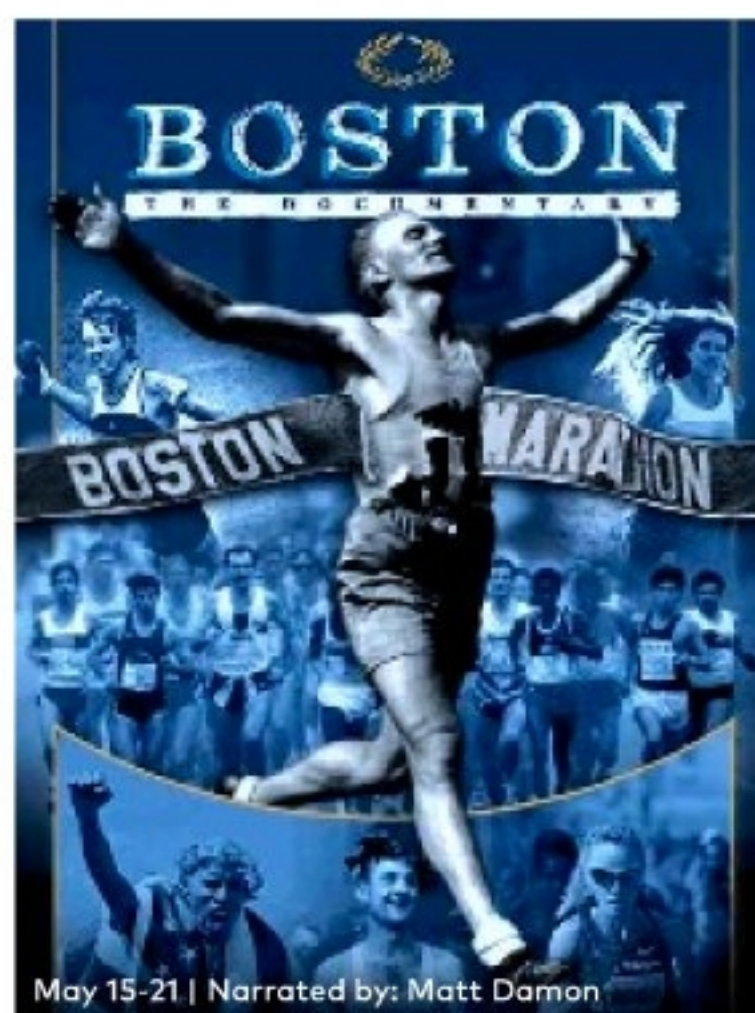
the face of extreme adversity.

Sarandon's previous voice work includes decidedly adult entries like the female outlaw story *Cassius and Clay*, the comedy *Hell and Back*, about two friends who must rescue a friend accidentally dragged to Hades, and kids flicks like the fantasy *James and the Giant Peach* and *Rugrats in Paris: The Movie*. She says the animated films she gets offered differ from live action, particularly in the realm of kid's entertainment. Children's animated films are more primal, basic, she says. "Animation allows for more fantastical stories without being too real or scary."

Children's animation, with no-holds-barred visuals and wild stories, she asserts, are good for kids but ultimately she takes an old-school position on the significance of cartoons in the development of a child's imagination.

"I think books are the most important, but animation tackles a lot of social interaction, so it's really important to make sure that the moral of the story is a good, positive one."

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The hardest working man in film

FILM

Johnson knows what it's like to live without money

In 2000, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson was trying to break into Hollywood. He was off to an OK start. The pro-wrestler already had a following, a role in *The Mummy Returns* and high-wattage charm. He also had no acting experience, no idea how Hollywood worked, and, besides a few idols in Harrison Ford, Clint Eastwood and Arnold Schwarzenegger, no blueprint for success.

"I couldn't say, 'Oh, let me just follow the half-black and half-Samoan actor who was also a wrestler. Let me follow his path.' That wasn't an option, that wasn't there. So I was forced to create my own," Johnson said recently. "I have an ideology that I always like to share with the inner group, and with some people on the outside, and I'll share it with you: I don't just want to play the game. I want to change the way the game is played."

And he did, becoming one of the world's biggest movie stars in the process, with a booming production company, a year-round filming schedule, 84.4 million followers on Instagram, 11.2 million on Twitter and a reported \$64.5 million salary in 2016 that put him at the top of Forbes' highest-paid actors list.

"Alone among his generation, Dwayne Johnson has aimed for middle of the road, broad, appealing, leading man status," said Richard Rushfield, who runs the Hollywood newsletter *The Ankler*.

"While his peers have carved out more edgy, cool, of-the-moment profiles, Johnson has assiduously whittled down



Soon after *The Fate of the Furious*, Dwayne Johnson will star in *Baywatch* alongside Zac Efron later this month. CANADIAN PRESS

the rough edges of his early The Rock wrestling persona."

Simply, the 44-year-old superstar is an entertainment machine and, like Schwarzenegger before him, summer is his main stage. There's his pre-summer *Fast* and the *Furious* movies, which Johnson is credited as helping to revitalize. Revenue from the latest installment is expected to surpass \$1 billion globally this week.

Johnson has also proven himself to be a summer draw on his own in leading roles in the disaster pic *San Andreas* in 2015 and the buddy comedy *Central Intelligence* in 2016. This summer, he's betting on *Baywatch*, out May 25, as a po-

"I couldn't say 'Oh, let me just follow the half-black and half-Samoan actor who was also a wrestler. Let me follow his path.'"

Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson

tential new franchise.

"I love being able to create big movies or TV shows that entertain people, that make them happy. I know what it's like to earn a dollar. I know what it's like to live paycheck to paycheck and wonder how you're going to pay the rent. I know what it's like to be evicted. Money doesn't fall out of the sky. So if you're going to pay for your ticket, that inspires me to want to make

a great movie," said Johnson, who remembers being evicted at age 14.

"I always say to everyone, 'Hey, around the corner we're getting evicted. Get to work!' I drive everyone crazy with that."

Johnson, who heads up the production company Seven Bucks with his ex-wife Dany Garcia, may be the purest example of a global entertainer there is, aside from Tom Cruise

or Will Smith. He thinks big. He thinks globally. The audience is king. And he's going to put in the work to make sure they're smiling.

It's that thinking that led him to the *Baywatch* movie. Johnson was a teenager when the show was at the height of its popularity. He appreciated the "sexiness" of it, but also considered it kind of cheesy. Then, about five years ago, he was told it was the most successful television show of all time — an unparalleled global hit. And that settled it. Johnson would have to don the red trunks.

The film is not the television show, nor is it trying to be. There are still red suits,

and the babes and the bodies and some of the same names (Johnson is Mitch Buchannon, the role originally played by David Hasselhoff), but he says their movie is funnier, raunchier, more action-packed and, well, more self-aware. The cast includes Zac Efron, Alexandra Daddario and Priyanka Chopra.

"I always say, I have one boss. Not the movie studios ... The audience. The people. They'll dictate if there's another one," Johnson said. "I think we have a good shot."

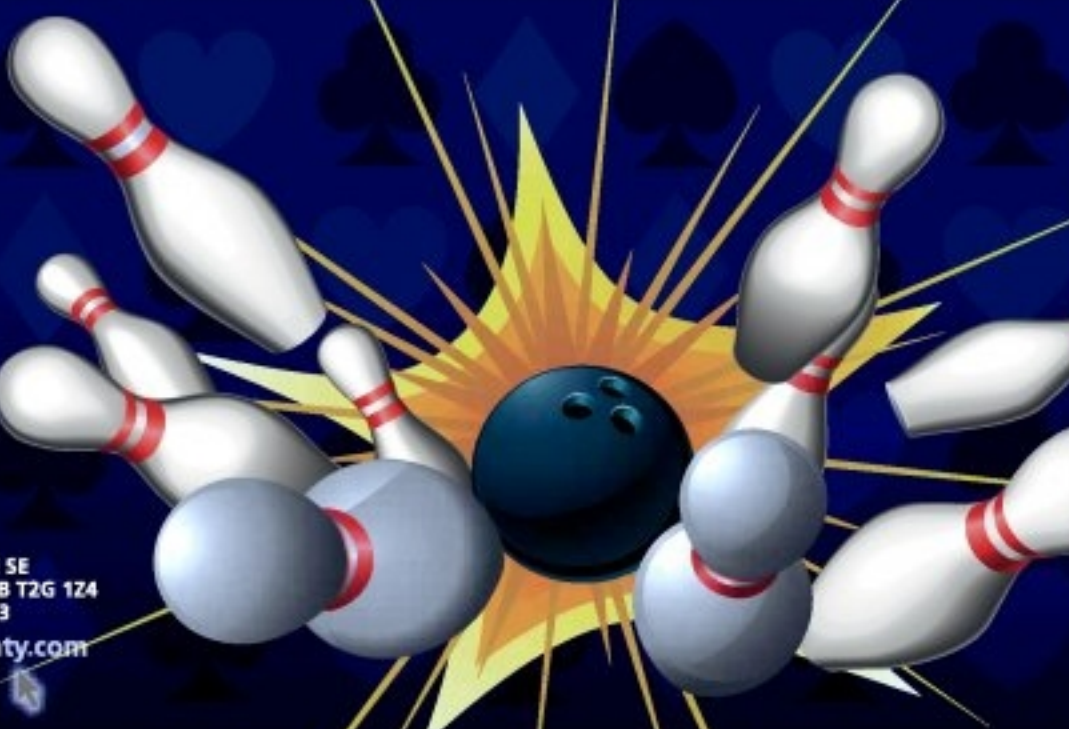
His philosophy for what works is pretty simple, too. Balance great action with genuine humour and you will usually send the audience home not just happy, but "floating."

"You know that cool feeling that you feel when you walk out of the theatre thinking, 'That was the greatest movie!' And you're kind of floating and talking about it in the car? I like that kind of thing," he said.

And he'll do whatever it takes to achieve that, even if it means 4 a.m. wake up calls, promoting projects with the vigour of P.T. Barnum and working a 12-month shooting schedule two years in a row all while maintaining a personal life with his partner, Lauren Hashian, and 1-year-old daughter, Jasmine. He's already filming the arcade game pic *Rampage* and will go straight on to *Skyscraper*, a hostage thriller from Central Intelligence director Rawson Marshall Thurber. Suddenly, it'll be December and time to promote his big Christmas release "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle."

"What is this 'break' thing you speak of?" Johnson said with a chuckle. "But it's a good time for me. There's a lot of good things going around."




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Bigelow delivers the Congo via VR

FILM TECHNOLOGY

Oscar winner brings short doc on Africa with VR visors

As a filmmaker drawn to the most visceral forms of cinema, it was probably inevitable that Kathryn Bigelow's high-adrenaline curiosities would lead her to virtual reality.

The Oscar-winning director last week premiered her first VR experience, *The Protectors: Walk in the Rangers' Shoes*, an eight-minute, 360-degree plunge into the lives of the Garamba National Park rangers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Bigelow directed it with Imraan Ismail, a virtual-reality veteran, and the two used the nascent, immersive medium to give a full sense of the dangers the 200 ragtag rangers face daily in guarding the Delaware-sized park, including its hundreds of perishing elephants, from the constant plundering of poachers and gunmen.



Oscar-winning director Kathryn Bigelow, right, delivered her latest film project via virtual reality units. CONTRIBUTED



journalistic potential to inform and foster empathy.

"I love it," Bigelow said of the medium. "I think it's all about content, though. It's not tech first; it's content first."

"It opens up corridors to awareness and information about social geopolitical issues that you would otherwise have very little access to," she added. "That's the beauty of journalism is to bring you to environments, stories, profiles of people that you otherwise have little or no access to. I think what's beautiful is the piece is that it's very objective. Here are these men and these are their thoughts. It's very intimate and yet what they're doing is so profound."

A number of big-name filmmakers have recently tried their hand at VR, including Jon Favreau and Alejandro Inarritu, who's to debut a virtual reality work next month at the Cannes Film Festival.

But Bigelow, 65, may be the most significant of the bunch because of her interest in getting as close as possible to her subjects and in combining storytelling with journalism.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The most important thing was to put a human face on this issue," Bigelow said in an interview alongside Ismail in the back room of a Tribeca restaurant. "My hope was that if the eyes of the world realized and recognized the kind of sacrifice they're making, then perhaps not only could

they be better equipped but it also might raise recruitment."

National Geographic will release the film May 1 on the VR app Within, and on YouTube and Facebook360 the following week. It's a co-production of the VR company Here Be Dragons and the film production company Annapurna Pic-

tures — making it a kind of fusion of both worlds.

Even in its brief eight minutes, viewers of *The Protectors* will readily recognize the same cinematic command Bigelow brought to her Academy Award winner *The Hurt Locker* and her most recent film, the Osama bin Laden hunt thriller

Zero Dark Thirty.

The Protectors follows the rangers through the tall grass, on the trail of poachers and in an apparent fire-fight with attackers. In one memorable shot, a helicopter lands right on top of the viewer.

Bigelow's virtual reality debut left her excited for its

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Starring Chris Pine and Gal Gadot, *Wonder Woman* is one of the few big-budget summer films that has been directed by a female filmmaker. CONTRIBUTED

Stakes fly high for Wonder Woman

HOLLYWOOD

Director is on a mission with 2017's female superhero

Director Patty Jenkins first expressed interest in making a *Wonder Woman* movie over 10 years ago. She'd just made *Monster* — which won Charlize Theron an Oscar — and was doing the rounds at various studios talking about what she'd like to do next. Richard Donner's *Superman* was a film that changed her life, and it occurred to her that there still hadn't been a *Wonder Woman* movie.

Now Jenkins' *Wonder Woman* is barreling toward its release on June 2 — not without a detour over the past decade, including a pregnancy, and Jenkins almost directing the sequel to *Thor*.

Unfairly or not, there's a lot at stake with her new film. Not only is it the first big screen movie about one of the most popular superheroes of all time, it's also the first female-led superhero movie in over a decade, following the financial disasters of *Catwoman* and *Elektra*. On top of all that, it's a rare big-budget blockbuster from a director who happens to be a woman. No pressure, right?

This summer will see a number of female-directed films, but most are independent. Jenkins has the sole tent-pole, an industry term for a big-budget movie intended to support a studio's lower-earning films.

In fact, Jenkins is one of the few women who have ever been granted a budget of over \$100 million. Kathryn Bigelow got one for *K-11: The Widowmaker*, and Ava DuVernay has one for *A Wrinkle in Time*. It's a void



Sophia Coppola's *The Beguiled* also opens June 23. CONTRIBUTED

that's especially notable during the summer, when there is a seemingly endless string of male-directed films with \$200 million-plus budgets in theatres each week.

It's not that women don't direct summer blockbusters. In the past 10 years of top studio summer releases there's been Elizabeth Banks' *Pitch Perfect 2*, Phyllida Lloyd's *Mamma Mia* and Anne Fletcher's *The Proposal*, all of which grossed from \$287.5 million to \$609.8 million on budgets under \$52 million. They're just often not afforded blockbuster budgets.

Writer, director and actress Zoe Lister-Jones whose indie film *Band Aid* also comes out June 2, said she doesn't see the same amount of risk being taken on women as men to handle tent-pole and franchise films. "That should be the focus of where we look at gender inequity in this industry for female directors," she told *The Associated Press* earlier this year.

Experience is a catch-22 for women. Lucasfilm chief Kathleen Kennedy got into hot water last year when she said that while finding a female director for a *Star Wars* film is a priority, they want to make sure that they're set up for success. "You can't come into them with essentially no experience," Kennedy told *Hollywood trade Variety*.

Jenkins is "as stunned as anybody" that there have been so few — especially because she and many of her female peers regularly handle comparable budgets working in television.

"A pilot that you shoot in nine days for \$10 million ends up being a very big parallel to this. It's the same dollar per day," Jenkins said. "So many men have crossed over...it's the same job, just on a larger scale."

Jenkins is well aware of the

pressure to succeed, not only for her movie and reputation, but for all female directors. It's part of the reason she walked away from directing *Thor: The Dark World* and why she was cautious to take on *Wonder Woman*. She needed to be sure she and Warner Bros. were on the same page as to what movie they were making.

That clarity of vision is what *Catwoman* producer Denise Di Novi said they lacked in 2004. Starring Halle Berry, the film was a critical and commercial flop, making \$82.1 million worldwide against a \$100 million budget.

"One of the reasons that movie failed was we were trying to have a female superhero movie be like a male superhero movie. It was too soon," Di Novi said.

"We weren't able to really give it the integrity of being one of the first female superhero movies. We were trying to make it like all the other movies. And it shouldn't have been."

But that's when the buying power of teenage boys dictated everything. Because of hits like *The Hunger Games*, and the diversity (and success) of content being produced by Amazon, Hulu and Netflix, Jenkins thinks things are changing.

Even though *Wonder Woman* is only her second feature, Jenkins' work has always been steady. Hollywood has never stopped trying to get her to make films.

In fact, there are already talks about a *Wonder Woman* sequel, but nothing she can discuss publicly yet. Dwayne Johnson has her on his shortlist to direct Disney's *Jungle Cruise* too, although he's not sure she knows that yet.

"Patty has that really cool edge...I felt like she could be a really cool choice for a movie like *Jungle Cruise*," Johnson said. "Plus, you know what? I'm just a big fan."



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■ **Rough Night**
Lucia Aniello's bachelorette comedy (June 16)

■ **The Beguiled**
Sophia Coppola's Civil War pic (June 23)

■ **Detroit**
Kathryn Bigelow's 1967 riots drama (Aug. 4)

Fact or fiction? Hot Docs vs. Hollywood

The divide between documentary fact and dramatic fiction has never seemed flimsier, especially at the Hot Docs festival, where many international premieres are happening. Parallels between real life and classic Hollywood narratives can be drawn in several cases, sometimes worrisomely so. **Peter Howell** TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



The Last Animals vs. Children of Men

DOC: Photojournalist Kate Brooks aims her probing lens at humanity's ultimate act of violence: extinction of an entire species — namely, the demise of the world's elephants and rhino — and the serious possibility that humans will one day be the last animals on Earth. **HOLLYWOOD:** Dystopias are a staple of popular fiction, from The Hunger Games to the upcoming Handmaid's Tale miniseries. One dark standard really resonates: Alfonso Cuarón's Children of Men envisioned a planet so drained of natural vitality that women are unable to conceive children. Humans face extinction, like all other animals they recklessly eliminated.



Mermaids vs. Splash

DOC: They call it a mergasm: a euphoric feeling when a woman slips on the carefully constructed tail that transforms her from ordinary human to figure of aquatic legend. A curious hobby on the surface, this doc dives into the psychology behind the real-life fish story. **HOLLYWOOD:** In 1984 rom-com Splash, Darryl Hannah is the girl of Tom Hanks' dream, only she's a mermaid. It sounds doomed, but when she assumes human form to track him down in New York City, Cupid might have to make an exception. It's the same watery wish fulfillment that prompts the quirky mermaid dress-up in Ali Weinstein's doc.



Becoming Bond vs. On Her Majesty's Secret Service

DOC: James Bond may be a freewheeling hero (licence to kill, sexual romps, etc.). But the actor who plays him can feel like a prisoner, constrained to the role off camera and on. Josh Greenbaum's doc profiles one-off 007 George Lazenby, the Aussie actor who walked away from a seven-picture deal and \$1-million signing bonus after his first movie in 1969. **HOLLYWOOD:** Many rank On Her Majesty's Secret Service among the best of the 007 series, and Lazenby is every bit the rule breaker on screen as he was off it. It's also the only Bond film where 007 marries for real (not as part of a deception) and the first where he openly weeps.



Spookers vs. House of a 1,000 Corpses

DOC: Imagine if the drooling zombies of Michael Jackson's Thriller video opened their own theme park. The strange scene in Florian Habicht's Spookers, a commercial fright fest on the grounds of a shuttered psychiatric hospital in New Zealand, takes centre stage in this doc. The pants-wetting (and worse) horror is convincing, and the makeup is great. **HOLLYWOOD:** I'd argue '1,000 Corpses' gets closest to the serial insanity of Spookers, but not in a good way. When I reviewed the film (premise: psycho killers operating a freak museum), I said it "devolves into the worst kind of drive-in drive-in." Spookers is better by keeping it real (sort of).

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How the Maudie biopic became a blockbuster



A romance blossoms between Everett (Ethan Hawke) and Maud Lewis (Sally Hawkins) in *Maudie*. The movie currently has a higher per-screen average last weekend than the top-grossing *The Fate of the Furious*. CONTRIBUTED

SLEEPER HITS

Maudie film is Atlantic's No. 2 movie on limited release

The small-budget biopic of folk artist Maud Lewis has become an unlikely Atlantic Canadian blockbuster.

Maudie is the region's No. 2 film, with a higher per-screen average last weekend than the top-grossing *The Fate of the Furious*, according to Mongrel Media, the film's distributor.

"Maudie had a weekend per-screen average of \$7,239 in the Atlantic provinces," Alison Zimmer, Mongrel's theatrical sales co-ordinator, said Wednesday.

"It definitely over-performed in Atlantic Canada."

The drama stars Oscar-nominated British actor Sally Hawkins as the reclusive Nova Scotia artist whose hands were riddled with arthritis, and American Ethan

Hawke as her fish peddler husband, Everette.

It opened in limited release on April 14, and is currently being shown on 30 screens, half in the Atlantic region. A total of 75 screens will play Maudie across Canada by this weekend, including theatres in Corner Brook, N.L., and Antigonish, Amherst and Truro, N.S.

People have lined up around the block at some theatres, and at least one Halifax junior high school plans a field trip Thursday to see it.

The success has exceeded initial expectations, said Zimmer, although she adds that she knew Maudie would be an East Coast hit — it is set in Nova Scotia and was filmed in Newfoundland.

"Seven of the top 10 theatres were in Atlantic Canada this past weekend," said Zimmer during an interview.

The independent Fundy Cinema in Wolfville, N.S., planned two showings, but owner Noemi Volovics added two more after they entirely

“It's a story of a Canadian female artist, which is something we don't get the opportunity to see very often.”

Alison Zimmer,
Mongrel Media

sold out.

"Maudie has done very well for us," Volovics said. "I would say probably more than half of the audience (are people who) never come to this theatre."

Aisling Walsh directed and Sherry White wrote the Canada-Ireland co-production.

It has received critical acclaim at various festivals around the world and captured the Super Channel People's Choice award at the

Vancouver International Film Festival.

Lewis, who lived in poverty for most of her life, sold her paintings from her home near Digby, N.S., for as little as \$2 and \$3.

She died in 1970, but her paintings have since sold for up to \$22,000.

Two of her works were ordered by the White House during Richard Nixon's presidency after Lewis achieved national attention through an article in the *Star Weekly* and was featured in a CBC TV documentary.

Zimmer said they expect the film to be released in the United States, U.K., France, Germany, Spain, Australia and Japan later this year.

A Halifax native, Zimmer said she understands why the film was so successful in the Atlantic provinces.

"It's a story of a Canadian female artist, which is something we don't get the opportunity to see very often," she said.

"There's a lot of pride."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Norman makes foibles the focus

REVIEW

Film explores friendship with the Israeli prime minister

Richard Gere delivers a bravura performance in his title role of a Duddy Kravitz-style hustler, especially in a wordless early sequence that speaks volumes about his character.

The pantomime occurs outside a pricey Manhattan shoe store. Gere's Norman Oppenheimer, an influencer without influence, seeks to ingratiate himself to Micha Eshel (Lior Ashkenazi), a visiting Israeli deputy minister.

Norman sees Eshel eyeing a ridiculously expensive pair of shoes, too expensive even for a politician. Norman's hand touches Eshel's arm, then his shoulder, in a buddy-buddy gesture. Eshel must have these shoes. Norman will make it happen — consider it a "Wel-

come to New York" gift — even though Norman walks the streets because he can't afford an office.

Three years later, Eshel has become Israel's prime minister. He remembers his impromptu pal Norman — "He has a tremendous heart!" Eshel tells his skeptical wife — and boy, does Norman remember him.

Thus is set in motion the main story of this English-language debut by writer/director Joseph Cedar, a New York-born Israeli filmmaker.

Fascinated by the foibles of humans, especially men, he can take the smallest gesture or incident and turn it into something momentous, as seen in his earlier film *Footnote*, a Cannes 2011 Palme d'Or contender that also featured Ashkenazi, playing the successful son of a jealous father.

Ashkenazi is superb here as a lonely politician susceptible to flattery and gifts. There are also grand supporting turns by Steve Buscemi as Norman's

doubtful yet hopeful rabbi, Michael Sheen as Norman's connected but worried nephew, Dan Stevens as a caustic Wall Street operator and Charlotte Gainsbourg as a mysteriously motivated Israeli official.

The picture, though, belongs to Gere, who deserves to be remembered at awards time. His Norman is a fully realized character, a man who is not to be trusted but who is impossible to hate and may even have that great heart Eshel believes in.

Norman is a strangely withholding figure, almost always seen in a camel coat, tweed cap and plaid scarf, as he carefully assesses a situation behind wire frames. He's an unknowable man, yet one whose vulnerability shows through and makes us feel for him. When the nephew observes that Norman is like a drowning man trying to flag the attention of an ocean liner, he replies, "But I'm a good swimmer!" We don't want him to sink.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Richard Gere and Lior Ashkenazi shine in *Norman*. CONTRIBUTED

OBITUARY

Bollywood's Vinod Khanna dies

Vinod Khanna, a dashing Bollywood actor turned politician, has died of cancer, a hospital official said. He was 70.

Tushar Pania, a spokesman for Sir HN Reliance Foundation Hospital, said Khanna died Thursday due to bladder carcinoma.

Khanna made his Bollywood debut in 1968 and acted in more than 100 films. His popular performances included *Mere Apne* (My Own), *Mera Gaon Mera Desh* (My Village, My Country), *Gaddaar* (Traitor), *Kachhe Dhaage* (Delicate Thread) and *Amar Akbar Anthony*. He acted with top stars Amitabh Bachchan and Dharmendra in several Hindi movies.

In 1982, Khanna temporarily quit the film industry to join spiritual guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. He resumed his film career after five years.

He entered politics in 1997 as a lawmaker with the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, representing the Gurdaspur constituency in northern Punjab state in Parliament. He also served as junior external affairs minister and culture and tourism minister.

He married his first wife,



A hospital official says Vinod Khanna, a dashing Bollywood actor turned politician, has died of cancer in Mumbai. He was 70. AP PHOTO

Geetanjali, in 1971 and the two had two sons, Rahul Khanna and Akshaye Khanna, who also became Bollywood actors. The marriage ended in

a divorce, and he married his second wife, Kavita, in 1990. They had two children, a son and a daughter.

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Songwriter finds solace in debut album Landing



Singer-songwriter Amelie Beyries is releasing her debut album *Landing*. GALIT RODAN/THE CANADIAN

MUSIC

Amelie Beyries has fought two cancer battles

Amelie Beyries has felt life slipping out of her grasp.

It first happened when she was diagnosed with cancer at age 28. Coming out of treatment, she thought everything would improve. Except it didn't — it got worse.

But 10 years later, the Montreal-raised singer is still here to tell her story. She considers that itself a victory.

"The great thing about being sick is you're very conscious of your fragility," she says while sipping a latte in a Toronto cafe.

"You're happy, you're having coffee and it's nice out. You're feeling OK. Focus on that."

Now at age 37 she's releasing *Landing*, her tender debut album under the name Beyries (pronounced Bay-riss).

It's filled with melancholy songs, some which linger on the darkness of life's most helpless hours, while others find a spark of hope in survival. Each track carries the emotional weight of a woman haunted by her pain.

"If you had met me 10 years ago I would've never cried," she says, wiping away a few tears as she recounts her cancer treatments.

"I would've been a person very much in control."

In those days she worked in the demanding, fast-paced public relations industry and had a comfortable loft in Old Montreal. It was steps from where she'd wind up her days by partying with colleagues and clients until last call.

But the celebrations came to a grinding halt.

After visiting her doctor over worries about a lump in her breast, she was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer and urged to start chemotherapy immediately.

Seven months of treatment ended with a partial mastectomy and two months of radiation.

Those days weren't easy, but Beyries remembers a renewed thirst for life.

She put her job aside and bought a chalet away from the city for a bit of seclusion.

The house gave her enough room to wheel in a baby grand piano inherited from her grandmother, whom she never met.

While Beyries dabbled in composing music as a teenager, her interest was merely casual. But those ivory keys started beckoning her again.

Sitting down at the piano she composed *Soldier*, a defiant story about severing ties with a soured relationship.

Beyries played it for a couple of friends who shared it with their contacts in Quebec's media industry. Hearing the buzz, a local fashion magazine chose to showcase the song

alongside a feature story about breast cancer on its tablet app.

It was a meaningful gesture for Beyries, but she didn't intend to launch a music career based on that attention. Life was finally starting to get back on track and she didn't need more turbulence.

A few months later, she started feeling electrical shocks under her arm.

Doctors told her the cancer was back and that she'd need to undergo treatment again.

"The first time you don't know what's waiting for you," she says of the process. "The second time you know and it's very scary."

Getting back on track again after her left breast was removed wasn't so easy.

Without a steady job her finances were a shambles and the dream chalet had to be sold. When a buyer couldn't be found fast enough, she was pushed into bankruptcy.

"Everything was just a complete mess," she remembers.

Dragged into a crippling depression, Beyries eventually turned to her piano again to write *Alone*, which traces the end of a "very dark period"

when she'd lost faith in everything.

Nobody else was supposed to hear her recordings, Beyries insists, but friends convinced her to set them free.

They landed in the hands of Montreal producer Alex McMahon, who urged Beyries to expand on her feelings in a studio. They worked together on tracks that evoke 1970s Fleetwood Mac, Elton John and Cat Stevens.

Landing also represents three generations of women in her family, each who played a role in its creation.

Her grandmother's piano helped chisel the messages she wrote to her mother, most notably on *J'aurai cent ans*, the album's only French-language track.

And Beyries' sister illustrated the collage of visual trinkets that adorn the album's cover. Each one is important — her grandmother's piano, a butterfly pendant her mother used to wear and an hourglass to represent life.

"I just know that it can stop at any time," Beyries says.

Talking about the future is hard too. When pressed for what's next, Beyries says she's written songs for a second album but doesn't like to think that far ahead. She's learned that lesson before, even though she's six years in remission.

"I'm trying to focus my mind on what's going on right now," she says. THE CANADIAN PRESS

“Everything was just a complete mess.”
Amelie Beyries



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No More Drama hitmaker Mary J. Blige's new album, *Strength of a Woman*, proves Blige is at her best when she's at her emotionally worst. CHRIS PIZZELLO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mary's back: A tougher Blige on album

NEW TUNES

Missy Elliott might be Blige's best musical guest

Let's state the obvious here: Mary J. Blige has a way with hurt. Songs like, *Not Gon' Cry* and *No More Drama* might even prove that Blige is at her best when she's at her worst.

Her latest set, *Strength of*

a Woman, supports that almost-fact.

Sure, "happy Mary" can make a hit. (Please see: 2001's *Family Affair* in this dancery.) But "scorned Mary" can make you feel both her pain and your own - every cut, every bruise, every pang of fragile hope.

On *Strength of a Woman*, Blige harnesses that power. Perhaps thanks in no small part to real-life drama with her estranged husband Martin "Kendu" Isaacs, from whom she filed for divorce last year.

Lead single *Thick of It* - one of four heart-wrenching stand-outs co-written by Jazmine Sullivan - movingly captures Blige torn between staying and walking away.

But in no uncertain terms is Blige as ready to go as on the quietly scathing *Set Me Free*, also co-written by Sullivan. "How you fix your mouth to say I owe you/When you had another (chick) and taking trips.../With my money." Blige sings, later adding, "There's a special place in hell for you/

“It brings a certain pleasure to hear Blige flexing her emotional muscle.”

You gon' pay for what you did to me.”

The words are a little startling, but it brings a certain pleasure to hear Blige flexing

her emotional muscle against the hurt. She's down, but she's not out, as she declares on the Kanye West-assisted, *Love Yourself*, then again on the triumphant *Survivor*. The up-tempo *Find the Love* is also a winner, breaking through like a rainbow after the storm.

Missy Elliott might be Blige's best guest, popping up on *Glow Up*, which also features DJ Khaled and Quavo from the rap trio Migos. Contributors also include producers DJ Camper, Kaytranada, Bad-

NotGood and Teddy Riley, among others.

The hazy "Indestructible" is beautiful, with Blige seeming to advise - not just the audience - but herself: "I know your heart is aching/But you can't let him break it baby/You gotta love like you've never been hurt/To find a love that you deserve."

Maybe that's why fans cling to "sad Mary"; if, despite her troubles, she soldiers on, then maybe everyone else can, too.

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A fever that chills, even 40 years later

MOVIE HISTORY

Director and co-star on the smash film that still surprises

Peter Howell
life@metronews.ca

Saturday Night Fever startled almost everybody when it arrived in the cold winter of 1977.

Based on the disco craze that cultural pundits had already dismissed as a fading fad, it starred John Travolta as Tony Manero, a teen from a tough part of Brooklyn who was trying to dance his way to a better life.

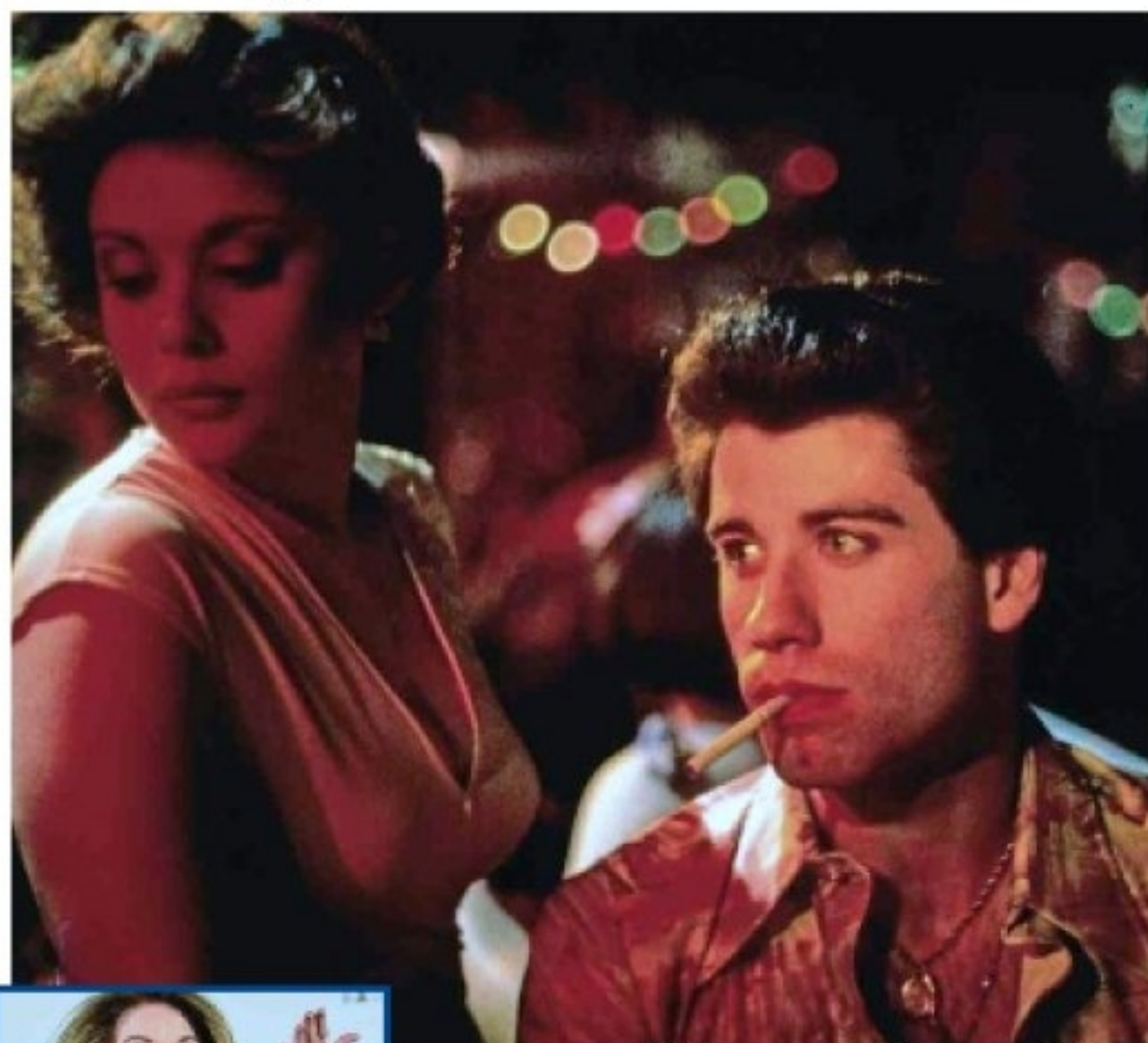
Travolta had a growing following due to the hit '70s high-school sitcom *Welcome Back, Kotter*, but he was hardly a household name and nobody's idea of the new Gene Kelly or Fred Astaire. Co-stars Donna Pescow and Karen Lynn Gorney were unknowns.

Who, apart from manic producer Robert Stigwood, could have foreseen how a combination of Travolta's screen magnetism and a killer soundtrack would reignite the disco phenomenon?

On the line from Los Angeles, English-born director John Badham and Brooklyn-born actress Donna Pescow share some Saturday Night Fever memories as the movie celebrates its 40th anniversary with a 4K Blu-ray restoration and other festivities:

I must admit I found it a little shocking, the sexist, racist and homophobic words and deeds of Tony and his gang, after not seeing the movie for a decade or so.

Badham: I can tell you that when we started the restoration we ran it in the big Paramount theatre and I was totally shocked. I'm going, "Whoa, I don't think we can do this today!" It's every thing you say it is, yet in a peculiar way it seemed to make the movie grounded. It brought the dark side to it; it's not just whipped cream and birthday cake. The dark underside to these characters is part of the story, the main story of the film which is this young guy growing up in a world that he's better than. He needs to get out of



Donna Pescow, seen left in more recent times, starred with John Travolta in *Saturday Night Fever*. CONTRIBUTED



there. It takes the whole film for him to finally make that giant move.

Pescow: The political correctness now is a whole other topic. And what I mean by that is what they'll put in films today, I don't know if any of this or a lot of this would make the final cut now. But I think at the time, that it was very true to form. People really were like that, and I hate to say it. As unfortunate as it is, that was the general attitude in that neighbourhood, certainly, as sad and pathetic as it is.

It breaks my heart when Tony does something terrible to Annette and she says, "All I ever did was like you." How do you view Annette now?

Pescow: You know, we all

knew girls like her. To me, she was a composite of girls I went to school with, girls I met in the neighbourhood before we started filming

there. She was someone who people would relate to because she was trying her best and trying to make good choices but ultimately they all and nothing worked for her. Because the acting malicious actress, people felt

People really were like that, and I hate to say it.

Donna Pescow

Legend has it the studio wanted to trim the "You Should be Dancing" scene and show Travolta mainly in close-up, but Travolta demanded it run in its entirety. True or false?

Badham: There is some truth to that, and I don't have to throw the studio under the bus here. It's my fault and my editor David Rawlins' fault. We were in cutting the dance scene and we got a little over-aggressive in cutting it. John came in one afternoon to look at it, and said, "Anybody could be doing this dance!"

You should at least see me (in full frame)." And right away David and I looked at each other and we said, "Yes, of course." Fred Astaire and

3 **ally were
and I hate
y it.**
Pescow
to the drawing board and
said to John, "Come back to-
morrow ... you're right!"

Prior to this movie, the Bee Gees were seriously not cool. How did you initially react when you were told you had to use the Bee Gees for your soundtrack?

Badham: Robert Stigwood handed me a cassette and said, "The Bee Gees have written five songs for us, and there are three No. 1 hits on here." I said, "OK" but my (hidden) reaction was, "Are you kidding me? How arrogant is that? Who knows there are three No. 1 hits on here?" And he was wrong. He totally screwed it up — there were four No. 1 hits!

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

[illegible]

Einstein series full of human spark

TELEVISION

Nat Geo show Genius reveals all his passions, vulnerabilities

The unparalleled brilliance and puckish wit? Check. The trademark wild mop of hair? Check. The marital infidelity and free-wheeling sex?

Yes, check again for Albert Einstein, who in National Geographic's miniseries *Genius* comes across as a full-blooded, hot-blooded figure who lived by his own rules, both scientific and domestic.

The 10-part series, starring Oscar-winning Geoffrey Rush ("Shine") as the mature physicist and Johnny Flynn ("Lovesick") as the budding one, also places Einstein firmly in a 20th-century world engulfed by political chaos and war.

Genius (debuting 9 p.m. EDT Tuesday) is both entertaining and intelligent, as befits a drama that's based on Walter Isaacson's acclaimed 2007 biography, *Einstein: His Life and Universe*, and is the Nat Geo channel's first scripted series.

Also credit Ron Howard, who brought another complex scientist to the screen in *A Beautiful Mind*, the 2001 Academy Award-winning film about troubled mathematician John Nash.

There are some *Mind*-type cinematic flourishes in *Genius*, restrained special effects that provide a visual sense of Einstein's thinking and the universe as he sees it and are helpful for the science-challenged.

But the series opens with Rush's Einstein and a young woman in the throes of passion (intercut, unnervingly, with an assassination that foretells of the upheaval ahead for him and the world).

It was a deliberate choice, said Howard, who directed episode one and is among the series' executive producers that include Brian Grazer, his longtime creative partner, and Gigi Pritzer. Noah Pink and Ken Biller are the screenwriters.

"Not only did it (the scene) appeal to us dramatically, but it also fulfilled the desire to announce to audiences right away that we weren't approaching it in an entirely straightforward, traditional and academic way," Howard said. "We were looking for the drama in the story and



Geoffrey Rush, who plays Einstein as an older man, learned to appreciate the scientist's ability to become a celebrity in spite of highly challenging ideas. CONTRIBUTED

willing to deal with Einstein, warts and all."

Genius hopscotches through time as it follows Einstein flailing as an unconventional student; a young lover and imperfect husband and parent; a Jew clashing with the German scientific establishment, and as the conflicted father of the

atomic age.

Rush said he was more familiar with aspects of Einstein's world-changing theory of relativity than the man himself, a distant figure often reduced to a beaming, wild-haired figure with brains.

As he delved further into Einstein's life, Rush was struck by

his many sides and the fame he achieved for work unknowable by many.

"He experienced a level of global celebrity equal to that of his contemporary, Charlie Chaplin," Rush said. But while Chaplin's *Little Tramp* film character had an everyman appeal, Einstein "managed that by com-

ing up with theories that 99.9 per cent of the world had no idea what he was talking about."

Not all were fans. Einstein was seen as a threat by, among others, fellow German scientists who derided his work as a sign of foreign influence and "devoid" of reality in the changing political order destined to be ruled by Adolf Hitler.

There are parallels with today's clashes over climate change and other science, Howard said.

"This sort of tactic of trying to galvanize support around a particular agenda by narrowing your focus, as opposed to broadening it, by doubting innovation and trying to rigidly hang on to accepted ideas, there's nothing new in that," he said.

Howard wants viewers to appreciate the courage it took the trailblazing Einstein to pursue his ideas against fierce opposition and, despite his own sometimes "less than noble" personal behaviour, become a voice for shared humanity.

The role that he ultimately took on as a philosopher and political force," Howard said, "that was not something he welcomed at all. It was thrust upon him." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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HEADLINE

COFFEE

Mexican Altura

The Pride of Chiapas

By: Sean Deasy



Meet a co-op determined to spill their beans to the world

For many of us the mention of Colombian in the mountainous terrain of Chiapas in southeastern Mexico is an amalgamated co-op, largely made up of indigenous people, that's become a world leader in the production of Fairtrade organic coffee. Many factors have led to their success: notably an unlimited reserve of pride and hard work. Long before we pour their coffee into our cups here in Canada, these farmers – historically from some of the more impoverished communities in the state – have poured everything into their craft.

"Most people living in this area [have been] extremely poor and rely on coffee as a main source of income," Eric Shabsove of Mountain

View Coffee in Toronto. "There is a great deal of pride that goes into everything they do."

The co-op is called the Federación Indígena Ecológica de Chiapas (or FIECH), created in 1993 by farmers who merged together three small co-operatives from across the region.

Over the years the federation has grown and now comprises 15 co-operatives representing 21 different municipalities throughout Chiapas. Today FIECH has more than 2,800 members consisting primarily of indigenous farmers and their families.

Fair game

Big changes came in 1996 when the Federation gained Fairtrade certification.

Since then, FIECH farmers have benefited from steadier and higher incomes through Fairtrade sales. The certification has created a positive cycle where members are able to invest in better farming practices, trainings and workshops, which in turn increase production and efficiency.

"The co-ops and Fairtrade help the farmers to invest back into their farms, notably for equipment, loans, new coffee trees and farming practices that are sustainable," says Shabsove. "So now these people have access to so many things that they'd never had before, and I think that's pretty amazing because these are people that have worked the land for many, many years, and have been [typically] marginalized."

Members are now more educated and aware of how to market and sell their coffee to international clients, and FIECH is continually looking for new ways to support its members. The organization has invested in a warehouse and equipment to improve quality control, and invested in a nursery with more than two million coffee plants, which are used by members to renew their planting as well as to sell coffee plants in the local market. FIECH has also established a microfinance fund for replanting coffee at the individual farmer level, accompanied by an organic agriculture toolkit and technical assistance.

And using Fairtrade premiums, FIECH has been able to "renovate" coffee trees across 3,000 hectares of land. In other words, replacing old trees with new ones that provide higher yields, which in turn boosts the bottom line for small producers.

But advantages of Fairtrade extend beyond production.

FIECH has also built dormitories at local schools in the region. Now students living in more remote areas have lodging while they are studying and attending school. It should have a long-lasting impact on local communities: keeping educational opportunities closer to home and helping deter youth migration to larger cities.

Tasteful weather

The terrain may be jagged and difficult to traverse, but it boasts volcanic soil – always an ally to great beans. And the region is blessed with the ideal climate to grow coffee – notably an abundance of rainfall.

"It's basically the best growing region in Mexico," says Shabsove, who has curated the entire global Headline Coffee collection. "There are others, but Chiapas is pretty much the best."

So how do pride, hard work and the perfect climate culminate in our cup? Altura is an aromatic coffee – delicate and sweet on the nose with butter and vanilla bean notes. The palate is smooth, balanced and well rounded with subtle tones of butter toffee, a soft hint of chocolate and a comforting feel to its finish.

Now is the best time to discover a taste for Altura, says Shabsove, since the harvesting season has just come to a close. And, as neighbours just to the north, Canadian coffee lovers are very well situated.

"What's also great about [the co-op] is its proximity to North America, so we get great access to these coffees, unlike some that are on the other side of the world. Most Mexican organic does flow into the United States and Canada, so we are certainly lucky that way."

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Come From Away grabs nine noms



Come From Away explores the aftermath of 9/11. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BROADWAY

9/11-inspired play grabs Drama Desk nominations

Canadian musical *Come From Away* has scored nine nominations for Drama Desk Awards.

The homegrown production was announced Thursday as a nominee for the outstanding musical award.

Married co-creators Irene Sankoff and David Hein received a trio of nods for outstanding music, lyrics and book of a musical.

The 9/11-inspired musical also landed an acting nomination for star Jenn Colella, along with nods for outstanding director of a musical for

Christopher Ashley, outstanding choreographer for Kelly Devine, orchestrations for August Eriksmoen, and costume design for a musical for Toni-Leslie James.

Gander, N.L., is the setting for *Come From Away*, which explores the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks. The remote East Coast town's population doubled in size as it sheltered 6,579 passengers and crew from 38 planes diverted when U.S. air space was closed on Sept. 11, 2001.

Prior to its Broadway debut early last month, *Come From Away* was staged in La Jolla, Calif., Washington, D.C., Seattle and Toronto.

The *Come From Away* cast was also in Gander for two concerts last October as a fundraiser for local charities.

A *Life*, from Montreal-born playwright Adam Bock, received

five nominations, including nods for outstanding play, actor David Hyde Pierce, director Anne Kauffman, set design for Laura Jellinek and sound design for Mikhail Fiksel.

The play tells the story of unlucky-in-love Nate Martin, who turns to astrology after his latest ill-fated relationship in an exploration of his past and place in the universe.

The musical *Anastasia* starring Ontario-raised theatre actor Ramin Karimloo scored nine nominations and will compete with *Come From Away* in the outstanding musical category.

Now in its 62nd year, the Drama Desk Awards are billed as the sole major New York theatre honours where Broadway, off-Broadway and off-off-Broadway productions compete in the same categories.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

YOUTUBE

Introducing Best.Cover.Ever

YouTube is launching a new music competition series for emerging artists featuring Backstreet Boys, Demi Lovato and Jason Derulo.

Ryan Seacrest Productions and Endemol Shine North America announced Wednesday that *Best.Cover.Ever* will debut on YouTube later this year.

Ludacris will host the series, where pop stars will give budding artists a chance to perform a cover of one of their songs. The winner will perform a duet version of the song with the star, which will debut on YouTube.

Fans can submit videos



Jason Derulo and Demi Lovato will star in an upcoming YouTube series named *Best.Cover.Ever*. CONTRIBUTED

through May 19 for the first phase. The songs include Backstreet Boys' "As Long As You Love Me," Lovato's "Confident"

and Derulo's "Trumpets."

Additional artist-participants will be announced at a later date. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sexsmith's many firsts on The Last Rider

NEW RELEASES

Album is first with touring band, first as producer

There's a first for everything. In Ron Sexsmith's case, his 13th album, *The Last Rider*, marks several debuts, including the first time he's recorded an album with his touring band and the first time he's assigned himself the producer's chair, although he's co-heralded this one with his longtime drummer Don Kerr.

"To be honest, I pretty much produced my last record (2015's) *Carousel One*, because Jim Scott was more of an engineer," Sexsmith explained last week from his new Stratford, Ont. abode.

"He was the guy that made it sound good, but I had to figure out when the bass comes in and all that sort of stuff. I've done enough records now that I sort of know the drill."

It wasn't supposed to happen that way: Sexsmith, who has recorded prior albums under the observant ears as such industry heavyweights as Bob Rock, Mitchell Froom, Tchad Blake, and Martin Terefe, was hoping to coerce Terefe (who worked on four previous Sexsmith albums) for a fifth go-round.

"We couldn't come up with a number that worked," Sexsmith, 53, admits. "His fee was eating up the whole recording budget, so Don said, 'I'm a producer and you know how your

songs are supposed to go, so why don't we just do it ourselves?' ... But I think it was for the best."

The *Last Rider* listeners may be inclined to agree: Sexsmith and his merry band of travellers booked The Tragically Hip's Bath Studio near Kingston for a week, and popped out 15 songs featuring some of the sweetest melodies that the St. Catharines, Ont.-born troubadour has ever written, with some string-and-brass-tinged accompaniments that suggest British Invasion influences. As for his production chops, Sexsmith said this is the first album that is probably closest to his authentic vision he's achieved as a songwriter.

As far as the subject matter goes, Sexsmith still focuses on a variety of thoughts that some might consider mundane. "I fixate on little things and am sort of an eavesdropper: I overhear bits of conversation, walk around and try to put into words everyday kind of things, and then try to make them universal."

There's also been another upheaval that has directly impacted the album's content: after three decades in Toronto, Sexsmith and his wife Colleen have relocated to Stratford.

"I wrote *Shoreline* for Colleen, because we were having these discussions going back a couple years about moving out of Toronto, and I was really resisting," he explains.

"The other song was *Man at the Gate* which I originally

wrote about a postcard from 1913 about Trinity Bellwoods Park, but as I was recording it, I realized what it really was about, and that's my farewell song to Toronto. In fact, I'm the man at the gate, 100 years later, and I'm the one who's not there anymore, and I've moved on."

He only fully moved into their new Stratford location last month — their first as homeowners — but said it was

“

I've done enough records now that I sort of know the drill.

Ron Sexsmith, on producing

an emotional moment saying goodbye to his Bellwoods Ave. rental. "I really love the (new)

house. I've been sleeping really well there. I felt this enormous cloud of stress evaporate over me, you know, and I can't believe it still. I get up in the morning and I can't believe I own it. It wasn't even on my list of things to do."

Coming off a busy period of activity that has seen him contribute to Lori Cullen's recent Sexsmith Swinghammer Songs album and Fred Penner's *Hear Music* among others, — as well

as writing his fairytale novel, Sexsmith says he is most looking forward to hitting the road for dates in Canada, the U.K. and Japan in July.

He has been prepping for the tour not only with rehearsals, but a diet. "I just came off a 10-day fast with no food at all," he says. "I'm trying to slim down for the tour, and I can almost see an ab when I look down now, so that's exciting."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ro Sexsmith has a 13th album out, *The Last Rider*, and it's the first time the singer-songwriter also produced the record.

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MSRP: \$26,935 SAVE <\$1,500>	SAVE <\$1,000> FINANCE PRICE: \$25,935	SAVE <\$500> LEASE PRICE: \$26,435

2017 KIA SOUL LX M/T

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CASH PURCHASE	FINANCE	LEASE
\$18,135*	\$106/BW*	\$109/BW*
MSRP: \$19,135 SAVE <\$1,000>	SAVE <\$1,000> FINANCE PRICE: \$18,135	SAVE <\$500> LEASE PRICE: \$18,635

2017 RIO LX M/T

STK# 111983

CASH PURCHASE	FINANCE	LEASE
\$13,855*	\$84/BW*	\$92/BW*
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2017 FORTE LX MT

STK# 95771

CASH PURCHASE	FINANCE	LEASE
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Ellen came out as gay 20 years ago

CULTURE CHANGER

The comedian, TV host recalls the famous sitcom episode

Ellen DeGeneres can measure her career and personal success by several impressive yardsticks, including a popular daytime talk show and eight-year marriage to Portia de Rossi.

But two decades ago, as star of the ABC sitcom *Ellen*, she put herself and her career on the line when she came out as gay and her character followed suit in "The Puppy Episode" that aired April 30, 1997.

The title itself is a clue to how difficult it was to get it made. When the show's writers raised the unprecedented broadcast storyline with Michael Eisner, then-CEO of ABC's parent Walt Disney Co., he suggested the character instead get a puppy, DeGeneres recalled.

As she prepared to mark the culture-changing event Friday on The Ellen DeGeneres Show, she looked back at what she faced in creating the episode and what came after.

How difficult was it to decide to come out both personally and in character, and do it simultaneously? I was doing just fine. The show was a success, my career was a success and there was no real reason for me to do it other than I did some work on myself, some deep soul-searching, and realized I was really carrying around a lot of shame. ... No matter how many times I tried to rationalize that I didn't need anyone to know, I knew that it was a secret. And I knew that there was a possibility that people would hate me for the simple fact that no matter how much they loved my comedy or my show, but



Ellen DeGeneres came out as gay on her sitcom, on April 30, 1997, to actress Laura Dern. CONTRIBUTED

they might hate me if they knew I was gay.

It became more important to me than my career. I suddenly said, "Why am I being, you know, ashamed of who I am just to be successful and famous in society's eyes?" ... And then I thought, the character on the show is clearly struggling. There's no relationship. It was pretty clear it would be an easy transition for her to realize she was gay, which was why her relationships with men weren't working out.

How were the studio and network to work with during the script development and production?

They really didn't give us the OK (at first). We were trying to convince them to do it, and

there were closed-door meetings. And the scripts were written on red paper so you couldn't see the black ink. They were shredded at the end of every single day and locked in a safe. It was crazy. It was like we were spies or something.

Fellow cast member Joely Fisher recalled that you held back from saying the line "I'm gay" in pre-taping rehearsals. Why?

Because the first time we were blocking it and rehearsing it (the scene), I started to say it and I would tear up. And I realized how charged that sentence was because, you know, when you're gay, the only time you say "I'm gay" is when you're revealing it to someone, when you're telling your

parents or when you're telling someone close to you. Because most people never have to say, "I'm straight." ... So Laura (guest star Laura Dern) kept saying, "Just don't say it," because she saw how hard it was for me.

How were you affected by the criticism that you, the show and your co-stars received?

I knew I was risking hurting my career. ... But to know that Laura Dern was punished for it just because she played my love interest in that show is crazy. I mean, she's a brilliant actress, she's heterosexual and yet she was punished. And Oprah (Winfrey) got hate mail just for being a part of it. Obviously, that's why a lot of people don't come out,



because there's a very loud and clear message ... that a lot of people don't understand it (being gay), and because they don't understand it they fear, and because they fear it they hate it. But I had no idea the amount of hate. I



I had no idea the amount of hate. I had no idea that there would be death threats or a bomb scare.

Ellen DeGeneres

had no idea that there would be death threats or a bomb scare. It was a really scary time.

You have a hit talk show and merchandise lines. Is that affirmation or not of where you and society are now?

You can look around and see that there's still a lot of work to be done. There are always going to be people who just are stuck in their heads on what gay means. ... Nobody really understood how dark it got for me. I was really, really in a deep depression. I had never been so down in my life. I was depressed. I was broke. I felt attacked. It was everything that you just fear in life, like nobody loving you. For me to crawl out of that and to accomplish what I've accomplished with the show and with my production company, and to succeed after all that ... (It) makes me realize that no matter how dark something gets, and no matter how bad something gets, that there's always a possibility of good coming from it. You have to just hold on and know that something good will come from it and there's always a lesson in everything.

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Gossip DIGEST — KIM, A BACHELOR & COULTER

1 Kim talks Paris robbery — Kim Kardashian says that being held at gunpoint during a Paris jewelry heist last year “was meant to happen.” Kardashian tells Ellen DeGeneres on her show Thursday that she’s “such a different person” after the October robbery. She says she was “definitely materialistic” before being robbed, but now she says she doesn’t care about things like jewelry.

2 Former Bachelor gets legal help — Former Bachelor Chris Soules has hired a high-profile law firm to defend him after he was charged with leaving the scene of an accident that killed another Iowa farmer, 66-year-old Kenneth Mosher, on a road near Aurora. Alfredo Parrish and two colleagues from Parrish’s Des Moines firm informed the court Thursday they are representing the reality TV

star. Authorities say Soules’ truck rear-ended a tractor driven by Mosher, causing Mosher’s death.

3 Civil rights group backs Ann Coulter — The American Civil Liberties Union’s national legal director, David Cole, says “unacceptable threats of violence” that led to the cancellation of Ann Coulter’s speech at the University of California, Berkeley are

inconsistent with principles that protect people from government overreach. He says hateful speech has consequences especially for people of colour, LGBTQ people, immigrants and others who have been historically marginalized. But Cole said late Wednesday the government cannot define threats to free speech because that could result in censorship.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Gossip DIGEST — THE DONALD, IVANKA & MIKHAIL

1 Simpsons take on Trump — The Simpsons honours President Donald Trump's first 100 days in office in a short animation released online. The clip shows Trump in bed counting up accomplishments as president, like increasing his Twitter following. The video also imagines the president's daughter, Ivanka, taking a seat on the Supreme Court. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2 Clothier removes mislabelled Ivanka items — G-III Apparel Group Inc. said it was removing the mislabeled items sold at discount retailer Stein Mart. It said the relabeling to Adrienne Vittadini "occurred without the knowledge or consent of the Ivanka Trump organization." It didn't say how the error occurred. Stein Mart said it was working with the manufacturer to resolve the issue. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 Mikhail Baryshnikov gains Latvian citizenship — Latvia on Thursday paid tribute to Mikhail Baryshnikov by granting citizenship to the ballet dancer, choreographer and actor. He was born in the Baltic nation in 1948 when it was part of the Soviet Union. The unanimous decision by lawmakers was made in recognition of Baryshnikov's civic involvement and his "voicing of political beliefs in support of democratic values and human rights." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOTOS BY YOUTUBE, GETTY, AFP/GETTY



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ASCENSIA

GETTING SMART ABOUT DEALING WITH DIABETES



CONTRIBUTED

At age 18, Kayla Brown was diagnosed with diabetes.

"I had the classic symptoms: weight loss, increased thirst, frequent urination, vision difficulties and fatigue," she says. "I looked for ways to make the most of a difficult situation by getting involved in the diabetes community and starting a blog."

Brown also embraced the latest technologies for monitoring her blood glucose levels. "When I was first diagnosed, I was recording my numbers in a notebook, and sometimes forgetting. It was harder to manage my blood sugar because it was difficult to see the patterns when I was just looking at a bunch of numbers on paper," she explains.

Now, Brown uses the Contour Next One Bluetooth-enabled smart meter and Contour diabetes app. This blood glucose meter links to your phone through a mobile app to collect, store, and graph meter readings to make it easier for patients to analyze results and better manage their diabetes. This innovation shows users at a glance if their blood sugar is too high, too low or within their target range with coloured lights via smartlight technology.

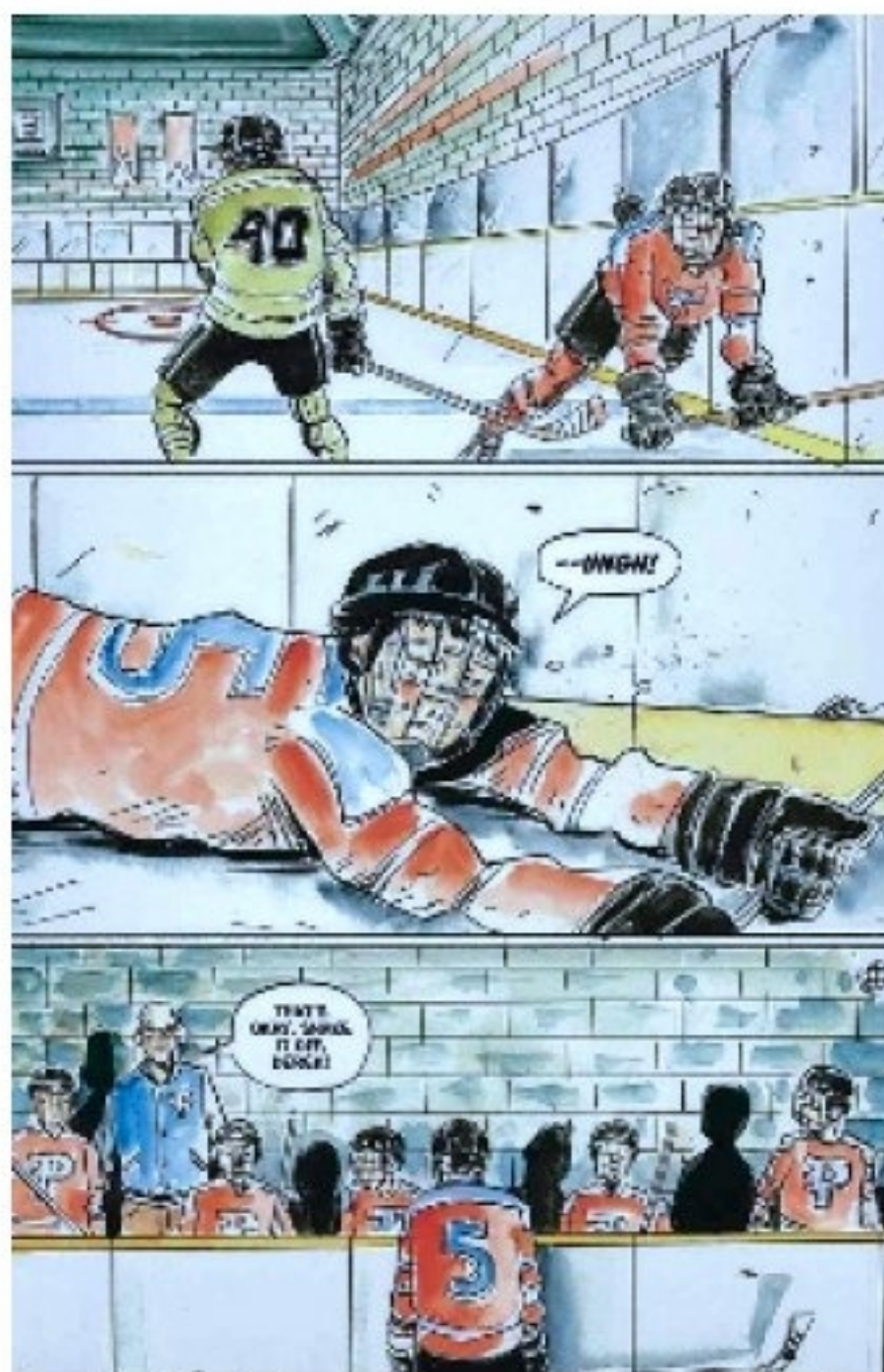
"With this device, I can quickly check and see by the colour of the light on the display whether

or not my sugar is in the normal range," Brown says. A green screen means her blood sugar is normal, yellow means high and red means low. "This keeps it simple, and if your blood sample is too small, it easily allows you to add more blood with the second chance sampling feature."

Technologies like these are beneficial to doctors, as well.

"Using new technology that connects glucometer testing to phone- or computer-based apps can help healthcare professionals see the bigger picture at a glance and pinpoint problem areas on the glucose readings," says Dr. Harpreet Bajaj, endocrinologist at LMC Diabetes and Endocrinology Centre in Brampton and research associate at Toronto's Mt. Sinai Hospital. "It's much easier to help patients figure out how to make changes and improve health outcomes." It's also less stressful for patients than seeing their numbers on a screen, he adds. "Rather than looking only at the small variations with their numbers, they can also look at the colours and know whether or not they are within their target glucose ranges."

Brown says the technology has encouraged her to check her blood more often and pay attention to the patterns. "I feel like I'm in control of my diabetes, so I'm living healthier and feeling better."



Roughneck is a fictional tale about a part-Cree family dealing with their own demons. CONTRIBUTED

Roughneck dissects Cree life, with a hockey story

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Jeff Lemire once set this aside to assist Gord Downie

Jeff Lemire's *Roughneck* wasn't supposed to be a companion piece to Gord Downie's *Secret Path*, but in some ways the two will be forever linked.

The Toronto-based illustrator was halfway through writing his latest graphic novel when Downie approached him about three years ago. Meeting at a local coffee shop, the Tragically Hip singer expressed his admiration for Lemire's stark portrayal of Canadian life and urged him to partner on a new project.

Downie had just finished recording an album recounting the life of Chanie Wenjack, a 12-year-old boy who died in 1966 after running away from a residential school. He hoped the artist would be willing to bring a visual element to the story.

Even though Lemire was deep into *Roughneck* — a fictional tale about a part-Cree family dealing with their own demons — he found it hard to shake Wenjack's heartbreaking real-life tragedy.

"The story really gets in your bones pretty quickly," Lemire says.

"I went back to my studio that day and couldn't stop thinking about it. I started envisioning how I would draw it, how I would structure his story as a comic."

So he set aside *Roughneck* to bring Wenjack's story to life through a book and animated film. Every week, Downie would drop by his downtown Toronto studio to assess the progress.

That was before the Hip singer was diagnosed with terminal

brain cancer. Neither of them could predict how *Secret Path* would provoke national conversations about residential schools.

In its own way, *Roughneck* pushes readers to dissect the complexities of addiction and violence, particularly in isolated northern communities.

The story follows Derek Ouelette, a former professional hockey defenceman booted from the ice after a violent confrontation with an opponent. Despite his career being destroyed in that instant, Ouelette's snap temper never escapes him.

As he returns to his fictional hometown of Pimitamon he's faced with balancing his own troubles with the urgent needs of his sister, who's fleeing an

abusive boyfriend and fighting addiction.

Lemire says the story melds personal experiences with ideas he drew from the headlines. Around the time he started the project he was fascinated by news stories of former hockey enforcers who were forced to confront their violent tendencies after retirement.

"You start off at a young age and that's all you know. When that leaves you behind, you don't really have a place for that violence," he says.

"*Roughneck*" marks Lemire's most fervent return to the darkness of his "Essex County" trilogy, a collection of stories about the secrets and pain bottled up in the residents of a fictional Canadian farming community.

It also revisits his themes surrounding Canada's relationship with Indigenous communities, the plight of the outsider, and intrinsic ties between family. All of those have been a vibrant part of his work in the Marvel and DC Comics superhero universes in recent years. THE CANADIAN PRESS



The story really gets in your bones pretty quickly.

Jeff Lemire, illustrator



SPONSORED CONTENT

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Get treatment from the trusted specialists at Gimbel Eye Centre

Gimbel Eye Centre Calgary has been growing in the past year and has recently added a very well respected doctor to its practice.

Dr. Kevin Warrian is a specialist in retinal and glaucoma eye conditions, and is one of the few ophthalmologists working in these areas in the northwest quadrant of Calgary, according to Calgary's Gimbel Eye Centre chief operating officer Gregg Becker.

"This is great news for our patients because it makes access much easier for people living in the northwest part of the city," Becker says.

Dr. Warrian's training has seen him study under leading specialists from Ontario to Florida, and his practice in the medical and surgical retinal area has been growing considerably in Calgary. He also sees patients for general ophthalmology concerns at Gimbel, as well as doing cataract and glaucoma surgery.

One of the many areas Dr. Warrian specializes in that is new to the Gimbel Centre is the retinal injection treatment



ISTOCK

for macular degeneration.

"Patients needing this treatment especially appreciate having a doctor trained in this area close to them, since treatments are ongoing for months or even years."

Gimbel continues to offer a full range of other ophthalmology treatments, including Lasik and PRK for vision correction, cataract surgery, and specialized treatments like the new EVO lens and KAMRA surgery to minimize or eliminate reading glasses.

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TOP 150

CELEBRATING CANADA'S GIFTS TO THE WORLD

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CANLIT

Ten books that helped shape Canadian culture

Rhonda Riche

Storytelling is part of the DNA of our country. From the oral histories passed down through generations of First Nations and Aboriginal families to the spending of long summer days lakeside reading a selection of short stories, a tale well told is one thing that unites all Canadians.

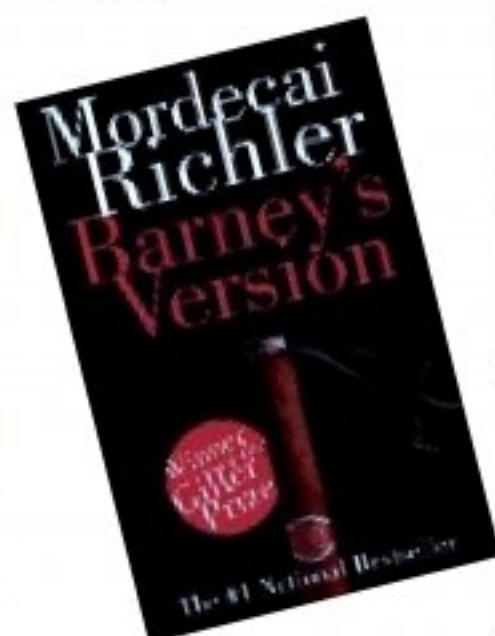
1 Anne of Green Gables by Lucy Maud Montgomery

Even with endless musicals, movies and television shows (and a whole tourism industry) based on this red-headed heroine, the original book is best.



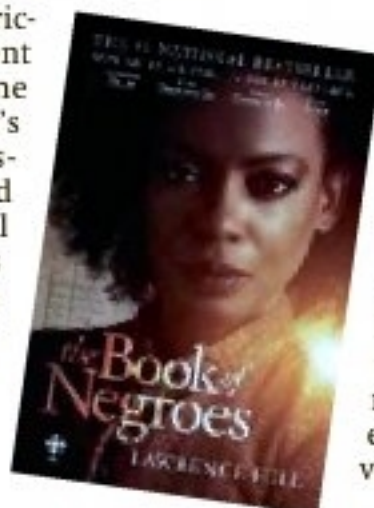
2 Barney's Version by Mordecai Richler

Richler's final novel, this funny, fictional autobiography of a Montreal-based TV producer was made into a movie in 2010 starring Paul Giamatti.



3 The Book of Negroes by Lawrence Hill

Based on a historical document of the same name, Hill's much-discussed novel examines the lives of Black Loyalists.



4 Life of Pi by Yann Martel

This magical novel tells the tale of a young man who survives a shipwreck while immigrating from India to Canada only to be trapped on a life raft with a tiger.

5 Neuromancer by William Gibson

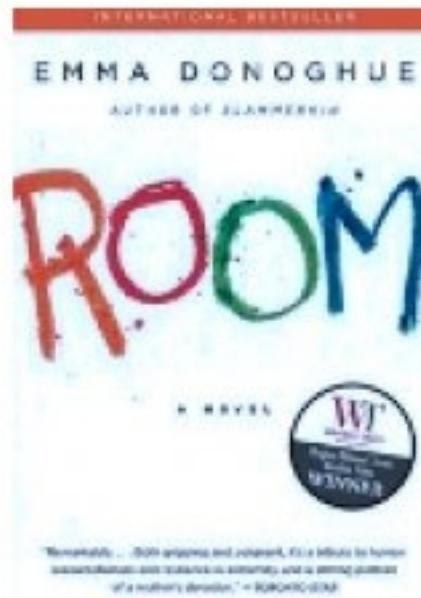
The science-fiction tale that spawned a whole new literary genre: cyberpunk.

6 Room by Emma Donoghue

This widely celebrated novel is written from the perspective of five-year-old Jack, who recounts the details of his everyday life only to reveal a harrowing existence.

7 The Tin Flute by Gabrielle Roy

Set in the Saint-Henri slums of Montreal, this compassionate look at Quebec's underclasses helped spark the province's Quiet Revolution in the 1960s.



8 The Wars by Timothy Findlay

A gut-wrenching novel about a sensitive young man who enlists to serve the Canadian Army, and his commitment to humanity in the nightmarish trench warfare of World War One.

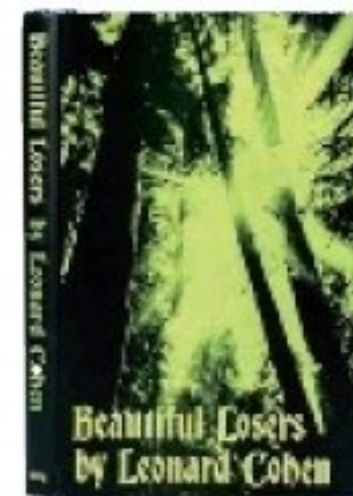
9 The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood

This dystopian novel from 1985 helped establish Atwood as a major author. The new TV mini-series based on the book shows just how ahead of her time she was.



10 Beautiful Losers by Leonard Cohen

Long before he was serenading Suzanne, Cohen was a Montreal poet and author whose major work, this psychedelic 1966 novel, reportedly inspired Lou Reed, among others.



The Yann Martel novel *Life of Pi* was turned into a movie and released in November, 2012. ALL PHOTOS TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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CONTRIBUTED

Chasing Arthurian lore and sites from Ritchie's film

"The stark landscape and ever-changing light and shade are stimuli for the imagination."



Falconry Scotland's two locations. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Undoubtedly, the Trotternish Ridge on the Isle of Skye is a geological marvel. At Kilt Rock, a sea cliff named for its massive vertical basalt columns forming the shape of a pleated skirt, a 55-metre waterfall shoots out

Books such as *Finding Arthur* by Adam Ardrey and *Arthur and the Lost Kingdoms* by Alistair Moffat point out that many of the familiar symbols of Arthur-

"Ben Arthur, Loch Arthur, Arthur's Seat, we've got all these references throughout Scotland

"We could easily lay claim to

Take a seven-hour train trip from Edinburgh around Scotland's coast to Plockton, a picturesque fishing village on the mainland just over from the Isle of Skye — a great place to start your Arthurian adventure. Details: thetrainline.com

The author was hosted by Visit Britain, which did not review or approve this story.

Let your smartphone guide you

MONTREAL

Technology brings new ways to explore city's history

Audio guides and walking tours have always been popular ways to get to know a city, but thanks to smartphones, this time-honoured activity has been undergoing a digital shift.

Montreal, home to several universities and a vibrant artistic community, has a number of digital mapping projects and online or tech-enhanced tours that offer different ways for visitors to explore various neighbourhoods.

Many of these online projects include maps with points of interest arranged around a theme, whether it be oral history, literary works or vanishing industrial heritage.

The use of smartphones means many of these digital tours can now include video, audio, holograms, history and art, according to multimedia producer Philip Lichti.

"(Smartphones) allow you to deliver these different sorts of media to phones, and there's also the technological capability of a phone to be able to situate where the listener is, not only in the geographic space but also the three-dimensional space," Lichti said.

Montreal's best-known digitally enhanced walking tour is undoubtedly Cité Mémoire, which tells the story of Old Montreal through a series of giant multimedia projections screened onto the facades of nearby historical buildings.

On a smaller scale, one can find a number of interesting projects that tell the story of Montreal's transforming neighbourhoods through the eyes of the people who live or grew up there.

Here is a small sample of the English-language offerings:

Cité Mémoire

Cité Mémoire brings the history of the Old Port area to life through more than 20 tableaux that include video, stories, and music.

Visitors download a free app, available in four languages, which includes a map and GPS and allows them to hear the words and music to accompany each of the projections.

These cover a wide range of well-and-lesser-known historical milestones — ranging from the story of Montreal's first executioner to that of Montreal Canadiens hockey great Maurice Richard.

Several new tableaux are be-



Digital projects brings new ways to explore Montreal's neighbourhoods. THE CANADIAN PRESS

TOUR WHAT'S LEFT OF ICONIC EXPO 67

It was five decades ago that Montreal welcomed the world to Expo 67, an international exhibition that saw millions of visitors flock to the city over six months.

The event would put Montreal on the map and is remembered fondly by those who attended as drawing them into a futuristic fantasy world and opening their eyes to people and places they'd never experienced before.

Some 60 countries were part of the exhibition, which included architectural and technological marvels as part of nearly 100 pavilions that made up the 1967 International and Universal Exposition under the theme Man and his World.

Yves Jasmin, the event's director of advertising, information and public relations, said he believes Expo, which coincided with the country's centennial, also had a positive national impact.



Queen Elizabeth II at the British Pavilion. THE CANADIAN PRESS

"I think it made Canadians, who are usually modest in their attestation of themselves, suddenly realize we could do something international and really get (others') ears pricked up," Jasmin, now 95, said.

On a symbolic level, Expo 67 projected an image of Canadian unity, an inter-

national perception that remains today, said Mohamed Reda Khomsi, an urban studies professor at Université du Québec à Montréal, who added that Quebec's unique status is also widely understood.

The event, which opened April 28 and ran until Oct. 29, 1967, counted nearly 50 million visitors, exceeding the expectations of organizers.

Among the visitors was Rick Rake, an ex-Montrealer who was just nine when Expo 67 opened. He recalled fond memories of fishing in the canals between the pavilions, eventually visiting all of them, opening his eyes to the world.

"It was like a dreamland of some sort — to see these things I'd never seen before," Rake said. "I didn't know about India or Africa or the space exhibit at the U.S. pavilion. I'd never seen anything like that before, so it was like entering a fantasy world."

The Expo had come as somewhat of a surprise — Montreal lost out to Moscow in the initial bidding and only in 1962 did the then-Soviet capital bow out.

After some debate about where to house the event, it was decided that man-made islands on the St. Lawrence River between Montreal and its southern suburbs would be the site.

Ile-Sainte-Helene was reshaped and made larger and Ile-Notre Dame was forged in part from rubble dug out during construction of Montreal's subway system.

The site, a popular spot today, was key, Jasmin said. But only a handful of structures have withstood the test of time: the Biosphere, the Habitat 67 residential complex, the Casino de Montreal building and Place des Nations, which hosted the opening and closing events.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ing added to the \$18-million circuit this year, including one that honours the 50-year anniversary of Expo 67.

"We always think of history

of something old, something dusty," said Michel Lemieux, the exhibit's co-creator.

"We wanted to tell these pieces of history in a way that

is both spectacular and intimate, because the voices, the characters who talk to us through our phones do it in a very intimate fashion."

Cité Mémoire's projections begin at dusk each night beginning May 10.

Visit: montrealenhistoires.com/memory-city.

Griffintown Tour

Filmmaker and artist G. Scott MacLeod has created a virtual tour of 21 key historical sites in the rapidly gentrifying neighbourhood of Griffintown.

For each location, there is a short film that combines animation, drawing, photos and film footage, narrated by a historian who recounts the site's place in the history of what was once a working-class industrial neighbourhood populated mainly by Irish immigrants.

Visit: griffintowntour.com.

Mapping the Mosaic

This digital mapping project was created by the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network in order to capture English-speaking Montrealers' memories of their city.

The map's points of interest include not only official histories but also personal memories submitted by locals.

Visit: mapping.montreal-mosaic.com.

Walking the post-industrial Lachine Canal

This 2.5-kilometre walk, which Lichti helped to produce, covers the area around the Lachine Canal, including parts of the St-Henri and Griffintown neighbourhoods. Listeners hear the

stories of workers and residents who evoke the area's fast-vanishing industrial past.

Visit: postindustrialmontreal.ca/audiowalks/canal-2013.

Mile End Memories

The Mile End has an undeniable "cool" factor as well as an active local historical society that seeks to foster understanding of one of the city's most creative artistic hubs.

The website includes a detailed map of the area, historical capsules and portraits of prominent citizens, as well as details on its more conventional tours and activities.

Visit: memoire.mile-end.qc.ca/en/histoire-du-quartier.

Fictional Montreal

Coming soon, this is a British Academy funded collaboration between Lichti and Ceri Morgan centred on Montreal's literary history.

Their soon-to-be launched digital map and website will feature audio recordings of authors reading excerpts from their works that are set in particular sites in the city.

Visit: storytelling.concordia.ca. THE CANADIAN PRESS



For food cravings after dark

CUISINE

Asian-inspired night markets popping up across the U.S.

Clouds of white smoke rise into the black sky from outdoor grills. The night air is scented with the fragrances of cuisines from around the world. Vendors in tiny stalls stir noodles, toss crepes and fill dumplings as lines of hungry customers stretch into the dark.

That was the scene at the Queens Night Market as it opened for the season in New York City. It's one of a number of sprawling nighttime food markets — inspired by the massive night markets of Asia — that have started popping up around the U.S. There are also regular night markets in Philadelphia and Southern California, and occasional night markets held elsewhere.

The Atlanta area became the latest destination to host a new night market in late April, attracting 50,000 people and 130 vendors at its first three-day event, with another one scheduled for November.

In St. Paul, Minnesota, the Little



Some 8,000 people turned out for the opening of the Queens Night Market on April 22. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mekong Night Market attracted 18,000 people one weekend last summer, and it's coming back June 10-11. In Jersey City, New Jersey, a

Mother's Day-themed night market is scheduled for May 12, 6:30 p.m. to midnight.

Some of the markets are primar-

ily Asian-themed, others promote food from around the world. The inexpensive, temporary market stalls also offer first-time entrepreneurs an opportunity to hone recipes and business skills without having to lay out the big bucks required for a brick-and-mortar shop or even a food truck. Some of the events even operate as non-profits with proceeds going to charity.

Lines can be long, as small quantities of food are being made to order on the spot. But part of the fun is watching the preparation as vendors stretch and fold crepes, pinch dumplings, sizzle and blend fillings and toss noodles. Other types of merchandise — arts, crafts, toys, along with games — are typically offered onsite as well as live music.

The events are very different, from laidback farmers markets or busy food halls, with an after-dark vibe and energy that seems to pick up as the night goes on. Some charge a few dollars' admission, but food items typically average \$5. Go with a friend, and for \$25, you can stuff yourself sharing four or five dishes — a perfect budget outing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



NIGHT MARKETS

Queens Night Market

John Wang spent childhood summers in Taiwan. That inspired him to start the Queens Night Market. Held on the grounds of the New York Hall of Science in a working-class and immigrant area, most menu items are \$5 and a booth costs \$135. "I want this to be the most accessible thing in New York City," Wang said. Details at: queensnightmarket.com.

Atlanta International Night Market

Held at Gwinnett Place Mall in Duluth, the market features food from around the world and a "vegan village." Founder David Lee, who was born in Vietnam and owns the Saigon Cafe chain of restaurants, hopes to hold the market four times a year. The next one scheduled for Nov. 3-5. Details at: atlnightmarket.org.

Night Market Philadelphia

Started in 2010, this market attracts 20,000 attendees. Food ranges from empanadas and Jamaican jerk chicken to Khmer satay. Markets take place in different neighbourhoods. The next two are scheduled for May 11 in the Burholme area and June 29 in West Philly. More details at: thefoodtrust.org/night-market.

626 Night Market and OC Night Market

Two night markets take place in Southern California. The 626 in Arcadia, which started in 2012, has 200 vendors, and the OC Night Market in Costa Mesa has 100. You can find everything from Filipino, Vietnamese and Laotian cuisines to Mediterranean shawarma and Texas barbecue. About 20 per cent of vendors are first-time entrepreneurs. Details at: 626nightmarket.com. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Toronto, coming off back-to-

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Edmonton becomes the 10th Canadian city to host a UFC card. THE CANADIAN PRESS

•LOCAL NEWS • VIEWS
•LIFE • SPORTS

Pens play party crashers

2017 NHL PLAYOFFS
SECOND-ROUND

Capitals fall behind again in rematch with old foes

Sidney Crosby scored two goals in 52 seconds, Nick Bonino had the winner in the third period and the Pittsburgh Penguins beat the Washington Capitals 3-2 in Game 1 of their second-round playoff series on Thursday night.

Crosby versus Alex Ovechkin got much of the buzz heading into the showdown of two of NHL's best teams, and Ovechkin collected his fourth goal of the



Penguins Phil Kessel and Bryan Rust take the puck from Capitals defenceman Nate Schmidt on Thursday night in Washington. NICK WASS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

playoffs. Evgeny Kuznetsov tied it in the third, but Marc-Andre Fleury made 15 of his 32 saves in the final period to help the defending Stanley Cup cham-

pions to the victory.

Crosby was a threat to score just about every time he touched the puck. He beat Braden Holtby with his first two shots of the

GAME 1 In D.C.



second period.

Holtby stopped 18 shots, but he allowed Bonino's goal at 12:36. Game 2 is Saturday night.

The Capitals had waited since in overtime of Game 6 in last year's second round for another shot at the Penguins.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Sens Karlsson gets one over on Rangers' Lundqvist

Erik Karlsson scored the go-ahead goal late in regulation as the Ottawa Senators snatched Game 1 from the New York Rangers 2-1 on Thursday night.

The Senators captain beat fellow Swede Henrik Lundqvist on an innocent shot from just above the goal-line — one that pinged off Rangers centre Derek Stepan and into the back of the net. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cards take two from Jays

Dexter Fowler, Greg Garcia and Matt Adams each had three hits as the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Toronto Blue Jays, 6-4 on Thursday

night to sweep a day-night doubleheader.

The Cardinals won the opener, 8-4, in 11 innings on Matt Carpenter's grand slam. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spieth and Palmer team up to take lead at Zurich Classic

Jordan Spieth showed off his stellar short game. Ryan Palmer contributed momentum-saving par putts. They turned out to be quite the team Thursday in the Zurich Classic, the first official team event on the PGA Tour in 36 years.

The pair closed out their round at 6-under 66 to share the lead with 18-year-old Ryan Ruffels and Kyle Stanley. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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DAILY TREAT

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Chewy Almond Butter Chip Cookies



PHOTO: MAYA VISNIE

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Creamy, soft and chocolate in every bite should be all of a description you need to be convinced to make these cookies.

Ready in 30 minutes

Prep time: 10
Cook time: 20-22

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, softened
- 1/2 cup smooth almond butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 1/4 cups spelt flour
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 3/4 cup mini chocolate chips

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 375. Grease a baking sheet with butter.
2. Cream butter and sugar. Add almond butter. Next add

egg and mix until fluffy.

3. Whisk flour, baking powder, soda and salt together. Combine the dry ingredients into the butter batter in stages, blending until incorporated. Add the chocolate chips and mix.

4. Drop a tablespoon of dough onto the cookie sheet and then flatten it a tiny bit with the back of a spoon. Space your cookies about 1-inch apart. Bake in the oven for 20 to 22 minutes. I consider this the most important step if you want chewy, soft cookies. Be sure to watch them carefully. If you want more crisp cookies, allow them to bake another few minutes.

5. Remove from the oven and allow to cool a few minutes.

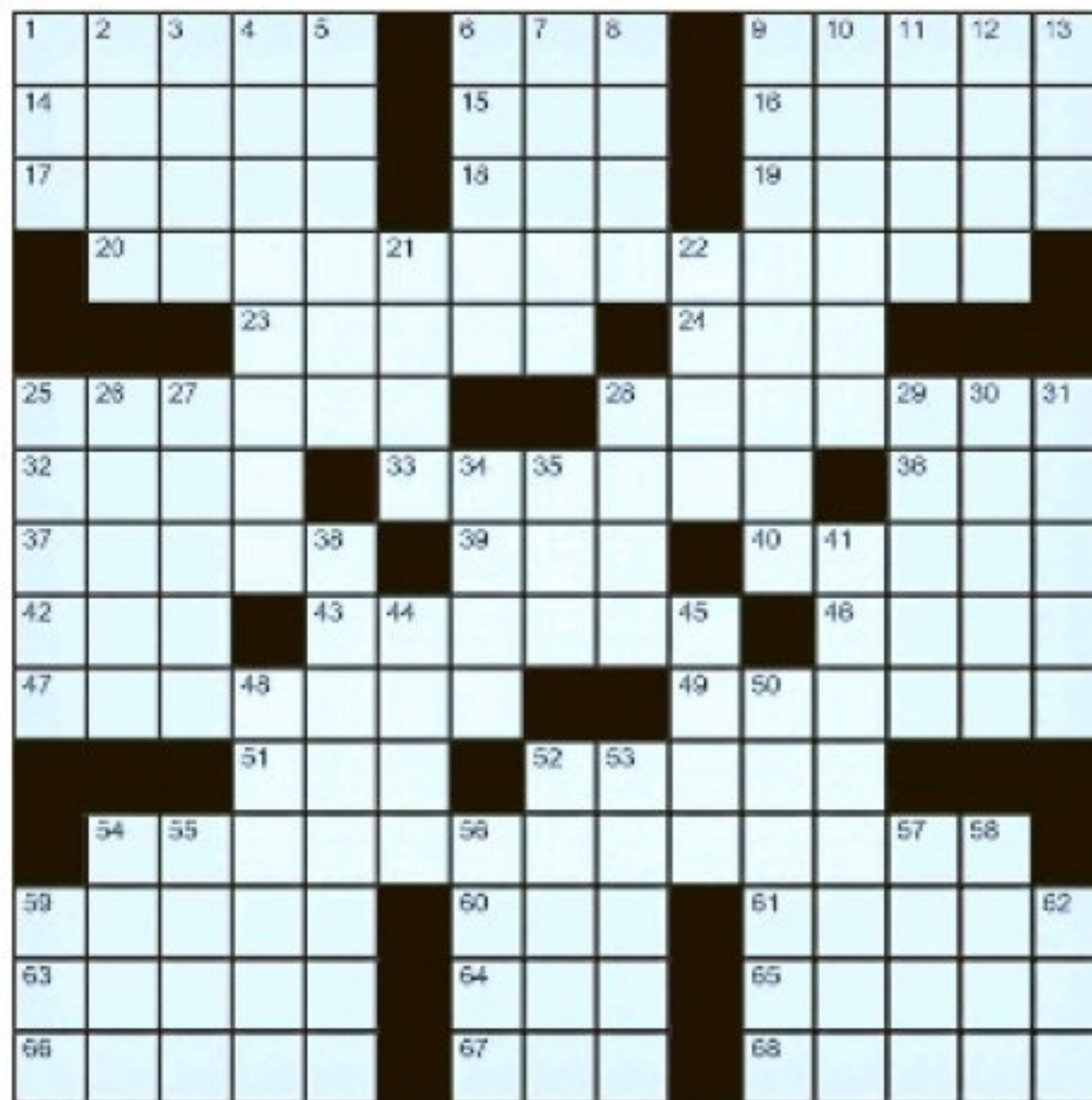
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BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Music publisher's cache
6. Transport for T.O. commuters
9. Tear to bits
14. Towards the ship's left side
15. Above, to a poet
16. Trompe l'__ (Visual illusions)
17. Ms. Shriver
18. Uno + due = ?
19. "Can __ you?" (Let's talk on the phone)
20. With 'The', Margaret Atwood's dystopian bestseller adapted as a thrilling new TV drama, airing on Bravo: 2 wds.
23. Radio station switchers
24. Public Relations job, e.g.
25. Totalitarian world in which #20-Across is set
28. King of Lydia who was fabulously rich
32. MGM lion's sound!
33. Really tick off
36. "Gangnam Style" guy
37. "Thus...": 2 wds.
39. Not in
40. Canadian singer/songwriter Sarah
42. Rich dollar amt.
43. Extra extensive
46. Schemer in Shakespeare's Othello
47. Sightseer's sight
59. Literary genre
60. __ budget
61. "___ the sauce could have used more seasoning." (Food competition judge's critique)
62. Mow the grass



even shorter
54. "Mad Men" actress now starring in #20-Across: 2 wds.
59. Literary genre
60. __ budget
61. "___ the sauce could have used more seasoning." (Food competition judge's critique)

63. Think alike
64. Spuds-exporting prov.
65. Movie star Zac
66. Windblown silt deposit
67. Cobbler's tool
68. Replies to the party invite, wee-ly

DOWN

1. "Cheers" bar owner
2. Moonfish
3. A Doll's House wife
4. Some people with their teeth at night unknowingly
5. Olympic venues,

fancy-style
6. Amount
7. Ms. Hatcher's
8. Deb. opposite, as per money
9. "That's how things turn out sometimes!": 3 wds.
10. British Columbia body of water,

with Strait
11. Money in Oman
12. She, in Sherbrooke
13. Internet hook-up letters
21. Created
22. Famed puppeteer Tony
25. Tiny weights
26. Column style of ancient Greece
27. Soup scooper
28. Ms. Blanchett
29. Asparagus shape
30. Accepted practice
31. Church council
34. Busybody-ish
35. Furrow
38. Manages
41. Historic happenings at Cape Canaveral
44. Milieu
45. Acadian singer Mr. Voisine
48. Rackets
50. Emitting more vapors
52. Freshen
53. Internet business
54. As a result
55. Handed-down history
56. "Be-_-Lula"
57. 'S' of EMS, for short
58. Swill
59. Friend
62. Heavy wts.

* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Expect the unexpected today, because unpredictable events will occur. Your mind is racing and going off in all directions!

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Secrets might come out today, especially if you do research or study something unusual. Something unexpected will occur behind the scenes.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You might meet a real character today. Or possibly, someone you already know will do something that amazes you. No matter what happens, you will learn something.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
A conversation with a boss, parent or authority figure will surprise you in some way today. If you are caught off guard, take a breath before you react. Don't quit your day job.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You suddenly might have to travel somewhere today, or scheduled travel plans will be changed or canceled. Travel and school schedules definitely are unpredictable.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Double-check your bank accounts and matters related to inheritances and shared property today, because something unexpected likely will occur. It's always good to know what's happening.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
A friend or partner probably will surprise you today. This person might demand more freedom in the relationship or suggest something unusual.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Your work routine will be interrupted by computer crashes, power outages, fire drills, cancelled appointments or something unexpected. Count on it.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is an accident-prone day for your children, so be extra vigilant. This applies to sports as well. Meanwhile, love at first sight might take place.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Small appliances might break down, or minor breakages could occur today. An unexpected visitor might appear at your door.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is an accident-prone day, so be careful. Think before you act or speak. However, you're full of clever and geniuslike ideas, because it's easy for you to think outside the box today.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Be careful with your finances and possessions today. You might find money, or you might lose money. Be careful to guard your possessions against loss or theft.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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